

THE NEAR APPROACHING
Day of Universal Restoration,
 REGENERATION,
 PEACE and SALVATION;
 In which is discovered, The
 FOUNDATION OF THE FALSE PROPHETS
 Under their various Characters ;
 WITH
 REMARKS ON THE BLESSED STATE
 OF THE
PRIMITIVE QUAKERS.
 ALSO,
 AN APPENDIX;
 In which is manifested,
 The Origin of Heaven and Hell;
 The Foundation of Light & Darknefs;
 AND THE
 GROUND of MISERY and HAPPINESS.
 LIKEWISE,
 AN ACCOUNT OF THE RELIGION
 OF THE
 Inhabitants of the New Heavens and Earth.
 AND A
 Relation of the Prophefy of Thomas Story.

By JOHN BOUSELL, of Deepham, Norfolk,
A Disciple of Jesus Christ.

“ And he shall judge among the nations, and shall rebuke many people; and
 “ they shall beat their swords into plough-shares, and their spears into pruning-
 “ hooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war
 “ any more.” ISAIAH. c. ii. v. 5.

Printed for the AUTHOR ; and sold by W. Richardson, Cornhill, London ;
 W. Stevenson, Norwich; and D. Boulter, Yarmouth.
 M DCC XCIII.



THE
PREFACE.

K NOW of a truth, beloved reader, in every age and dispensation, it has been the work of the servants and ministers of the Lord, according to the measure of grace received, to draw, to attract, to direct the minds of the people to the root of divine knowledge, to the fountain of wisdom, and to the spring of understanding in themselves, to the engrafted word, to the word of God nigh in the heart and in the mouth, that man might hear and do it; it was this word of faith which the apostles preached and called the holy unction, the divine anointing, which taught them all things, and was truth; the word the spirit of God is the fountain from whence words as branches of the vine receive life and virtue. The words that I speak unto you, saith the son of wisdom to his disciples, are spirit, and they are life; all words and writings which flow from this fountain, all testimonies delivered under the influence and inspiration of the powerful words
spirit

spirit of light, life and love, leaven the spirits of those which hear and receive into its own heavenly nature. The apostles declare as none knows the things of a man but by the spirit of a man which is within him (a strong argument founded upon right reason) in like manner none know the things of God but by the spirit of God, who reveals the mysteries of his heavenly kingdom to babes and sucklings.

Humble thyself, therefore, beloved reader under his mighty hand which is at work in thee, to bring down every hill and mountain, every high thought and exalted imagination; come thou into the low valleys and the Lord will teach thee of his ways, and lead thee in the middle path of true judgment; and he will find thy treasures in him are the treasures of wisdom; he is the fountain of light; admit of the rays, the beams of light which flow from this sun into thy spirit whereby it shall be enlightened. By the light of the spirit of truth thou shalt be safely led out of the darkness of error and delusion which hath long covered thy understanding, and the understanding of the inhabitants of the earth.

Our lot my friend is cast in the dark night of apostacy; this thou need no other proof of but the sight of the wickedness and abominations of mankind; my soul mourns under a sense thereof while I am writing these lines, a Godly jealousy has laid hold upon me; the cause of this calamity

mity lies at the door of the teachers, the leaders which the people have chosen for themselves.

My labour in travelling through the following pages has been according to my small measure to discover the foundation these are building upon, and the dreadful consequence of an evil corrupt ministry. This remark is not made upon any particular set of people, it is as necessary for the ministers of the dissenting congregations as of the established church to examine the foundation and spring of their ministry, whether it is from the powerful influence and inspiration of the spirit of God, or by a fire kindled by the sparks of their own spirits. I doubt not but there are men of integrity under every name, and I believe the Most High will pour forth of his spirit upon many of the present teachers, and raise up among them a free living powerful ministry. Probably the reader will enquire what is the ground of thy conclusion, that this great & glorious work will be begun and carried on in this dark age? I am free to inform thee, my friend: about forty years since, while my residence was at Woodbridge, in the county of Suffolk, as I was walking one evening in a lonely valley, my soul was overshadowed with heavenly light; in this vision I saw an antient building, and upon the battlements I beheld several of those which stood in the stations of ministers and elders among the people called Quakers, laid asleep upon their beds. This sight of the state of the people with whom I was

was joined in religious fellowship caused me deeply to mourn; being cloathed with holy zeal, I called with a raised voice to those sleepy spirits to arise and stand upon the walls of Zion; with swords in one hand and working instruments in the other, that the enemy might have been kept out and the work of the Lord carried on in the earth. After this passed away, I beheld a suffering day approaching, to prove the foundation of the inhabitants of this nation, and that none should be able to stand, but those whose foundation was laid upon the rock of ages, those who heard and did the sayings of the Son of God; and it also appeared clear to the view of my understanding after this suffering day of tribulation; the Most High would favor with a day of heavenly visitation; and many thousands should be brought to the knowledge of the truth, and as it had been in former ages, when it pleased the Almighty to visit the inhabitants of the earth with a day of heavenly light and love, the heavenly seed, the divine birth was brought forth in deep suffering; in like manner it would be in this day, and many precious servants of God should be banished out of the land. I conclude, time will soon manifest whether this springs from the influence of a strong imagination, or from a revelation of the most high God, in his condescending love for the information, comfort, strength, and consolation of his servants, which he in his wisdom will call and qualify for the building again of Zion, and carrying on and perfecting

perfecting the glorious work of reformation, in turning mankind from the evil of their ways.

Come, beloved reader, and enter into the service, enlist under the banner of the King of kings, who maketh war in righteousness against the armies the innumerable host of evil angels and spirits.

Man must receive spiritual light and understanding to discern the secret workings of the inhabitants of the kingdom of darkness. Near the time of the before mentioned vision in a dream, I beheld an army of men who stood in two ranks, one on the right and the other on the left hand, with swords and spears to strike at me; and I saw two angels who carried me in their arms through the midst of them to a place of safety. One of the angels informed me I should have a commission; I asked what was my present business, and received for answer to stand still. My dwelling at this time was, and I concluded would always be in heaven, in peace and joy, unspeakable and full of glory, and suffer no more. I was as a child in experience, and thought as a child; it pleased my heavenly Father to send one of his ministers with a sorrowful message, he told me where my dwelling was, as upon the Mount where I beheld the visions of the Almighty, and in his master's name he informed me I should be brought down and be driven to the borders of despair, and said, I do not see but thou will be preserved. No doubt
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but it was good for me to experience a state of deep tribulation, lest I should be exalted above measure, and that I might know what I was by nature like unto all other mortals subject to temptation, and as liable to fall into the same evils, except preserved by the mighty power of God.

Adversity came, I looked for light, and behold darkness covered my tabernacle, my passage was by the gates of hell, through the valley and shadow of death, and the enemy permitted to touch all but life; praises be given to him who liveth for ever and evermore, who bringeth the mighty both spiritual and temporal from their exalted seats of pride, and raises up those of low degree.

The Lord brought me down and raised me up again to speak well of his name, and to testify of his goodness, mercy, and loving kindness to all those which fear him.

After I removed into the city of Norwich, I was driven to great straits, the expence of my family were equal to the profits of my business; for about twenty years I wrought hard, went to bed and rose weary many times, prayed to the Most High to take away my natural life rather than any should lose by me. I could not in that, I cannot in this day see, what just claim any mortal can have to religion who does not fulfil his moral obligations; the spirit of truth leads all that hear her voice and follow her counsels, to do justly, to live soberly and righteously; he that is
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not honest to man cannot be faithful to God, unto whom as dependent creatures we ought in deep humility to pray to direct our steps and to guide us safely through the intricate paths of this world.

For want of abiding in the fear of the Lord many have plunged themselves and others into great distresses. I leave these remarks as a lesson for thee reader, that thy eye may be single unto the Lord in all thy undertakings; to return, I was often brought near to the borders of the grave, those about me saw but little hopes of my recovery; my great Lord and good, yea very good master, beheld with an eye of compassion from his holy habitation; his secret hand was underneath to support; he said to the raging waves of the sea thus far shall ye come but no further; at his powerful words the strong winds were still; honour and glory be to his name, all within me bows under a sense of his unmerited mercy and boundless love to the workmanship of his holy hand. I was brought down but not cast away, brought low yet not forsaken; the good hand was under to support to uphold my drooping spirits; in this cold, dark, and gloomy day of adversity, at times the son of righteousness arose with healing virtue under his wings and healed all my maladies; the light shined through the darkness into my habitation, it was the light and glory of God that gave me a clear sight of my own miserable state without divine assistance;

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I was made to abhor myself in dust and ashes; I bowed in humble prostration of soul before the throne of grace; I cried unto the Lord in my distress, he arose to my help and delivered me out of all my troubles. It is possible, beloved reader, these trials were permitted on thy account, that thou might be warned not to take thy flight on the sabbath day.

In the time of prosperity and tranquillity in this day it was with me as with a young soldier, I received my enlisting money, and was stript of all my old garments, and cloathed with new apparel; I thought myself very rich, and concluded my money would never be spent, like other vain mortals I fell into temptation; great dangers attend all who take their Lord's gifts either spiritual or temporal and deck themselves therewith, and go forth from under the humbling preserving power of the Lord into a strange country. I concluded the evil spirits would not have had so much power to afflict if I had not approached near to their habitation; in the midst of judgment the Lord remembered mercy; when the judgments of the Lord are abroad in the earth the inhabitants learn righteousness; Sion is redeemed through judgment. There is a deal in human nature that wants to be purified before the soul is prepared for an admittance into the mansion of the inhabitants of the celestial regions. In that day of trial many evil spirits compassed me and cast their fiery darts at me. The power of the Lord
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was my shield and buckler, he put upon my head the helmet of salvation, by him I run through a troop, his name was unto me as a strong tower, into which I ran in the day of trouble, and found safety.

There was some lying spirits which reported I had broke several times; lest this should lessen the weight of any testimony which the Lord in his wisdom may give me to bear for the cause of truth, I declare this report to be false, although greatly streightened at times, and knew not where to borrow five pounds, yet I was enabled to pay my just debts; and if, through afflictions, losses, or unforeseen accidents, I had fallen short, (which was not the case) yet when it pleased the Most High to favor and put it into my power, I should have seen it my duty; and this I testify is the duty of every man that has the least grain of honesty in him; he will pay all his just debts, although the law may not compel him.

Having cleared this rubbish which laid in my way, I will inform the reader I view myself in the present work under the form and in the figure of a pick-axe made of sound but unpolished metal, a useful instrument in pulling down of old houses, in laying open and discovering the rotten foundations of the white-washed walls and painted sepulchres. The weapons of our warfare, saith the apostle, are not carnal but

but spiritual, mighty through God in pulling down the strong holds of Satan.

If the reader is of a liberal mind, he will make proper allowance for manner of expression. I doubt not that human learning has its use in matters that relate to the things of this world; and as it is kept in subordination under the government of heavenly wisdom, it may have its service also in matters of a religious nature. I am sensible truth needs no apology; my intention is the welfare of my fellow mortals: I want them to come and taste and see and experience for themselves how good the Lord is; neither grace, glory nor any good thing will be withheld from those who fear and love him. My prayer unto him, with whom is all power, to spare my life in mutability, until I behold the glory of God exalted in his church over the glory of men; and that I may have some religious companions that we might sit together in heavenly places under the canopy of divine love, and that we might experience the light of the spirit of the Lord to shine upon our tabernacle.

Come beloved reader and have fellowship with me, for truly my fellowship is with the father and with the Son.

Come and feel the pure influence of the bright and morning star, the beginning of the new creation; come from the shadows of the evening;

ing; come to the light of the morning. Arise thou spirit and shine, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee. Come, and let us, under divine direction, build again Zion a holy habitation for the King of glory to dwell in; come and join with me in laying our foundation upon the immovable rock; come and wait with me in deep humility at the post of wisdom to hear her voice; her words drop as dew, and her speech as small rain upon the tender plants of her own right-hand planting; come with me into the garden of God and let us eat of the fruit of the tree of life; he that will, may come and drink of the waters of life freely. Receive the doctrines which flow from the fountain of wisdom, light and love.

In the following pages I have made some remarks on the great help to the members of the true church in reading the sacred scriptures, and expounding them as wisdom is received of the Lord. R. Barclay appears to me of the same mind, he saith, when the servants are met together, and every one gathered in the gift and grace of God in themselves, he that ministereth being actuated thereunto by arising of grace in himself, ought to speak forth what the spirit of God furnisheth him with, not minding the eloquence and wisdom of words, but the demonstration of the spirit, and of power; and that in the interpreting some part of the scripture, in
case

case the spirit, which is the good remembrancer, lead him so to do; and in answer to those which alledge that Christ took the book of Isaiah and read out of it and spoke therefrom, and that Peter preached from a sentence of the Prophet Joel; I answer, that Christ and Peter did it not but as immediately acted and moved thereunto by the spirit of God, and that, without premeditation, which I suppose our adversaries will not deny; in which can we willingly approve of it. BARCLAY'S APOLOGY, p. 386, and 387.

To the Lord I must leave thee who reads these lines; may his light shine round about thee, and the blessing of the everlasting hills rest upon thee, and the angel of his divine presence encompass thee. Protect and deliver thy soul from out of the paw of the lion and the bear, and from under the power and influence of the numerous wolves, in sheeps' cloathing. The power of the most High God is above every power, and as thou abidest in humility under the holy government of the good spirit, thou shalt experience its power to support and deliver, from all thy inward and outward, all thy spiritual and temporal enemies, and in thy passage through time administer divine refreshment, peace, comfort and consolation. The fountain is set open, the springs of life flow freely. He that believeth in me, saith the Son of wisdom, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. This he
speaks

speaks of the spirit which should be given to those that believe in his name.

The end of my labour is the salvation of thy soul. I have done my duty, must leave the events to the Lord, and remain a plain-dealing sincere and well-wishing friend to the whole birth of mankind.

JOHN BOUSELL.

Deephams, Norfolk.

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MY mind is disposed to pay the Inhabitants of the City of Norwich and County of Norfolk, and other parts of the nation, another public religious visit. My present business appears to be to discover the foundation of the false prophets, under the various names, who called themselves Ministers of Christ, by their fruits manifest themselves Ministers of Antichrist; this the rule laid down by the Son of Wisdom, this the criterion, by their fruits ye shall know them. Men do not gather grapes off thorns, neither figs off thistles, this is contrary both to that which is natural and spiritual; make the tree good and the fruit will be good also. I am very sensible, that except the blessings of my great Lord and good Master attend this labour of love of his poor, weak, illiterate servant, what I write will be but in vain. I purpose to do my duty and leave the event, and blow the

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trumpet

trumpet and say unto those that are asleep, awake, and unto the graves, be ye opened, and unto the dead, hear ye the voice of the Son of God, and arise, stand upon your feet and become a mighty army before the Lord; be ye cloathed with holy zeal for the honour and exaltation of his great and adorable name. Honour him and he will honour you, and go before you and fight your battles for you; every battle of the warriors is with garments rolled in blood, but this shall be with fuel of fire. The day is coming and is very nigh that shall burn as an oven the wicked, and the ungodly shall be as stubble, as briars and thorns that have long encumbered the Lord's holy ground, and stood in the way of his living heavenly seed, which he hath sown, and which he will, by the powerful operations of the beams of the Sun of Righteousness cause to spring up and spread, and fill the earth; the whole earth shall be filled with the glory of God.

Before this glorious, this mighty change, this work is compleated, the kingdom of Babylon, the seat of the throne of Satan, must be overthrown and destroyed. God is faithful in his promises, in fulfilling the prophecies and visions which he hath revealed unto his servants, the Prophets, pointing forth a more clear and full discovery of the Kingdom of Light, of Grace, and Truth. I have been led again to contemplate on the dispensation of the seven Angels, who received a commission to pour out the seven plagues

plagues upon the earth, and the temple was filled with smoke from the glory of God, and from his power, and no man was able to enter into the temple till the seven plagues of the seven Angels were fulfilled. The first went and poured out his vial upon the earth, and there fell a noisome and a grievous sore upon the men, who had the mark of the beast, and upon them that worshiped his image.

Every beam of heavenly light, every truth revealed, is as a vial of wrath poured out upon the idolatrous worshippers, and upon those idolatrous Priests, who are bowing down and worshipping a beastly, earthly, proud, self-interested spirit. Truth discovers the inward filthy state of all those false prophets, which God hath not sent, who are at enmity in their hearts against God. The sacrifices of these are as a stink and abomination in the sight of that holy Being whose penetrating eye sees through every covering, whose word is this day going forth, woe be unto those who cover themselves, and not with my spirit, saith the Lord, that take counsel, and not of me. I shall make but short remarks upon the second, third, fourth, and fifth Angels, who poured out their vials upon the sea, and the rivers and fountains of waters, and they became as the blood of a dead man, and every living soul died in the sea.

Admit of a ray of heavenly light to shine into your understandings, ye inhabitants of the earth, and be ye sensible of the evil consequents

ces of an evil corrupt Ministry, and know ye of a truth, all the doctrines that flow from the fountain of human wisdom, through the spirits of unenlightened, unregenerated man, are as the blood of a dead man, and proves certain spiritual death to every living soul that drinks thereof. I shall leave this work for other servants of the Lord to labour therein, as they receive an understanding, for no man can attain to the knowledge of the things of God but by the spirit of God. Man cannot understand that which is divine by all his natural and acquired abilities. Man, by worldly wisdom, know not God. The fourth Angel poured out his vial upon the sun, and power was given to him to scorch men with fire. This is not the natural or spiritual, but of the sun of the antichristian world, as the light of the spirit of divine wisdom shines, it is as a vial of wrath poured forth upon the light of the spirit of human wisdom, discovering its emptiness and darkness in the mysteries of the Kingdom of Heaven. The sixth Angel poured out his vial of the wrath of God on the great river Euphrates, and the waters thereof were dried up, that the way of the Kings of the East might be prepared.

I must honestly confess there appears a deep mystery in this, and at present I have received but little light and understanding and strength to unfold; to explain, to manifest, the true sense and signification; but my eye shall be to that great power that is able to qualify for the work

work of the present day. In the Lord I will put my trust, I humbly hope I shall not be confounded; I will look a little back into the sacred records, peradventure I may happily find a thread that will lead me to open a door into this mystery. Under the dispensation of the fifth and sixth Angels sounding their trumpets, the Prophet saw a star fall from heaven to the earth, and to him was given the key of the bottomless pit; and there arose a smoke out of the pit as the smoke of a great furnace, and the sun and the air were darkened by reason of the smoke of the pit; and there came out of the smoke locusts upon the earth, and unto them was given power as the scorpions of the earth has power.

Under this figure of the star falling from the heaven to the earth I understand, the general apostacy of those that called themselves Ministers of the Gospel in the time of outward ease and prosperity; these Ministers fell or departed in heart from God. After they had known him, they glorified him not as God, and thereby became vain in their imaginations; their foolish hearts deceiving them, fell from the heavenly simplicity into the earthly craft and subtlety which is evident from their inward nature and spirits described under the character of locusts, unto whom was given power, as the scorpions of the earth have power. Again herein is described the dreadful evil consequence of an evil and corrupt Ministry, moving under the influence of their own
spirits,

spirits, taking upon them to teach heavenly mysteries in their own earthly wisdom. As the minds of the professors of Christianity became alienated from God, and their understanding darkened, giving up themselves to the leadings and teachings of men, rejecting the teachings of the spirit of God, choosing to themselves teachers having itching ears, ever learning, and by this means never able to come to the knowledge of the truth. Light came into the world, but man loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. There is a dark cloud that arises from and covers every evil and rebellious wicked spirit; and it hath been in this smoke, in the dark night of apostacy, the false Prophets, the Ministers of Antichrist arose and spread themselves, and covered the earth, and ate up every green thing.

The darkness that arose, and doth yet arise from these spirits, is the cause of the light of the sun, of the fountain of heavenly wisdom becoming darkened, yet appear as darkness to those infernal spirits; these spirits are endued with power to penetrate to the center of their own kingdom, and form and transform themselves into any religious, even into the appearance of Angels of light. The end of these remarks is, that the Ministers and Members of the established Church and dissenting Congregations should examine themselves by the unerring light of the spirit of God, which shines in their understandings, and by the light of the word of God, and of the

the word of the Prophets and Ministers, and Ambassadors sent of God, as recorded in the sacred oracles of the holy scriptures, I call upon you that call yourselves Ministers, under the various names, whose servants are you? As no man can serve two masters, are you servants of God? Hath he poured forth of his spirit upon you, and put his word into your hearts, and given you a commission to speak in his name? Are you moving in and under the influence and inspiration of his divine power, to turn men from darkness to light, from Satan unto God? have you received power to open the eyes of the blind, and to unstop the deaf ears, and to open the prison doors, to bind up the broken hearted, to heal the sick, to proclaim liberty to the captive, and to cleanse the lepers, and to raise the dead, and to preach to the poor the gospel freely? Are your words spirit and life? And doth your ministry administer spiritual life to your hearers? If this is your experience go you on the name of the Lord God of Hosts, and his blessing will be with you; but if this is not your experience, then you are not servants of God but of man. If the Lord hath not sent you, you are running in your own wills, if you are stealing your neighbours words, and saying, thus saith the Lord, and he hath not spoken unto you, you are spiritual thieves and robbers, which climb up in your imaginations over the wall, and enter not by the spirit of wisdom, light, and love, into the work of the Ministry.

Believe

Believe me of a truth, if ye are not Ministers of heavenly life, ye are Ministers of spiritual death. And the sixth Angel sounded, and I heard a voice from the four horns of the golden altar which is before God, saying to the sixth Angel, which had the trumpet, loose the four Angels which are bound in the great river Euphrates; and the four Angels were loosened which were prepared for an hour and a day, and a month and a year, for to slay the third part of men; and the number of the army of the horsemen were two hundred thousand thousand, and I heard the number of them; and I saw the horses in the vision; and them that sat on them, having breast plates of fire and brimstone; and the heads of the horses were as the heads of lions, and out of their mouths issued fire and smoke and brimstone; by these was the third part of men killed by the fire, and by the smoke, and by the brimstone, which issued out of their mouths; for their power is in their mouths, and in their tails, for their tails were like unto serpents, and had heads, and with them they do hurt. This remarkable passage appears to me to hold forth the day wherein mankind, by their great and abominable idolatry, awakened and drew upon themselves the just judgments of the most high God. This mighty army appears to be ministers of vengeance in his hand, to execute his fierce wrath, to punish mankind for their transgressions of his holy laws, and rebellion against his commandments and divine statutes. For the rest
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of the men that were not killed by the plagues yet repented, not of the works of their hands, that they should not worship the Devil, and idols of gold and silver, and brasse and stone, and of wood, which neither can see or hear, or walk. I must confess the false prophets, the Ministers that presume to speak in the name of the Lord, from whom they have received no commission, no divine authority; these are the gospel plagues, these are the ministers of spiritual death, out of their mouths issued fire, smoke, and brimstone. Understanding this, that all doctrines that flow from the spirit of God, the fountain of heavenly wisdom, through prepared sanctified vessels, are as the waters of life administering spiritual life to the spirits of the Lord's humble dependent children; on the contrary, all doctrines, that proceed from the furnace of human wisdom, is as fire kindled by the sparks of the polluted spirits of unenlightened man, and blown up by the breath of their own carnal imaginations and conceptions, which is as smoke and brimstone, and a stink in the nostrils of the most high God, and is as a plague resting upon the idolaters, who are worshipping the beast, the dragon, and the false prophet, whose trust is in man, and who have forsaken God, the fountain of living waters, and hewn to themselves broken cisterns, that can hold no water. Be ye roused out of your lethargy and stupidity ye ministers, and admit the beams of the sun of righteousness to shine in and upon you, to

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quicken and make you alive unto God, and to heal all your maladies.

Prepare, prepare to meet the Lord, let every hill and mountain be laid low, every high thought and imagination be brought down, for the glory of God shall be revealed and exalted in the Christian Churches, over the glory of man this day, the vial of the wrath of God is poured out upon the deadly sea, and upon the poisonous waters of the fountains, and springs, and rivers, and streams of the kingdom of Babylon. The wrath of God Almighty is this day revealed from Heaven against the foundation and spring of all false ministry and false ministers in the Church of Antichrist, and against all false prophets that run; and the Lord hath not sent them that prophecy, and he hath not spoken unto them, and against all spiritual forcerers, and against all the spirit of witchcraft, against all false appearances and transformations of Satan and his ministers, under every character.

Let me appeal to you men of understanding, what is the ground of the abominations in the world, what is the cause of wars of desolation and destruction, and of woe and misery, at what door entered those inhabitants of the infernal regions, devils in human form, that walk in our streets belching forth oaths, and blaspheming the great and holy name of the most high God, in wilful rebellion against his holy laws and commandments; it is the leaders of the people that have caused them to err. Peradventure

venture, ye will say, is not the heart of man deceitful, and above all things desperately wicked? In the natural unregenerate state it is; look into the uncultivated ground, which is the natural mother, bringing forth nettles and weeds, as a wilderness, bringing forth briars and thorns. The outward creation corresponds unto the inward state of the spirit of man unto whom the Great Creator hath given ability to dig and plough, to weed, to sow, to plant, to graft, and to transplant, to cultivate, and to make the barren wilderness become a fruitful field, and the desert to blossom as the rose.

It is very evident, if man rightly employs the talents given him of God, with his blessing, he has power to bring forth a new creation. In like manner God hath given unto man a spiritual understanding to dress his own garden, as man becomes co-worker with the talent of grace, with the measure and manifestation of the good spirit, which is given unto every man to profit withal. It is the will of the good husbandman that the axe should be laid to the root of every tree which is evil, in the garden, (the heart of man) that they may be cut down and cast into the fire. Some will say this is the work of the spirit of God to cleanse and prepare the heart to receive the seed of his heavenly kingdom, that it might spring up and bring forth fruit, to the praise of his great and adorable name; I answer, as the ground is passive in the hands of man, and makes no resistance, in like manner,

man ought to become passive in the hands of the heavenly husbandman. This word of counsel comes in my way to drop, for the encouragement of the sons and daughters of my heavenly Father, you that are born again of the immortal seed, the word of God, to as many as receive this seed, this word, this spirit, and abide under its Government, receive power to become his children.

But I must return to view again the present state both of the teachers and hearers; my desire is, that they might all become the workmanship of God, created anew unto good works. Cease to do evil, learn to do well; return unto God and he will return unto you; draw nigh unto him and he will draw nigh unto you, and open unto you the gates of Paradise, and give you to eat of the tree of life; he that eateth of this tree shall live for ever. Wisdom is a tree of life to all those who lay hold of her, this tree of life stands in the ground in the centre of the soul of man, it is the word of the spirit of God that is saying, let there be light, let the light shine and enlighten those that sit in darkness, and give eternal light to those who lie in the regions and shadow of death. I am come, I am making myself known, faith wisdom, that men might have heavenly life, and that they might have it more abundantly. Come unto me all ye that are desirous of me, and fill yourselves with my fruits; they that eat me shall not be hungry, and they that drink me shall not be thirsty.

thirsty. I will make darkness to shine as the morning. I will yet pour out heavenly doctrine as prophecy, and leave it to all ages for ever. O ye teachers, you that call yourselves ministers, and ambassadors of God, hear ye his word sent this day amongst you, wait in deep humility and self-abasement, in the silence of all flesh, and say in sincerity, as the eye of the servant is to his master, and as the eye of the maid to her mistress, so our eyes wait upon thee, O God, until thy salvation cometh. Go no more forth in your own name, move no longer under the influence of your own spirit and wisdom, which is from beneath, wait to be endued with wisdom and power from above, work no longer in your wills, let the Lord work his will in you, it is only his own works that praise him.

My soul laments the miserable state of my fellow mortals, I mourn, under a deep sense of the great darkness that covers, as a black cloud, the eye of their understandings, in the name of the Lord my master, I testify, the ground, the cause of this calamity lies in the blind leaders, and the remedy lies in the people; as they receive the light of the spirit of God, they will no longer follow the light of the spirit of man. Let me reason with you again, you men of understanding, would you employ, would you maintain a set of pretended husbandmen or labourers in your fields, and in your harvest, or vineyards, year after year, season after season, except you received some benefit, except you
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saw and received some fruit of their labour. Nay, nay, as ye are wise in that which is natural, be ye wise in those things which are spiritual; look upon the earth and see what it brings forth, how hath wickedness taken deep root, and its branches spread over all the ground, which is full of weeds, briars, and thorns. O the unfruitfulness, the spiritual barrenness and death that is upon the land, what have your spiritual labourers done for you? Doth your vine flourish? Doth the fig-tree put forth her green figs, and the vine, with the tender grape, give a good smell? What corn have you in your ground? What treasures have you in your store-houses? Have not your labourers deceived you? Have you not been under the influence of the spirit of witchcraft? Are not your teachers spiritual forcerers? Have you not drank out of the cup of the wine of fornication, which the hireling ministers, the merchants of Babylon, handed unto you, by whom ye have been drawn to commit adultery, and in idolatry, worshiping the beast and his image.

The spirit of man hath exalted itself in both the (Old) Heaven and the (Old) Earth, which must pass away. He that set upon the throne said, behold, I make all things new; and he said unto me write, for these things are true and faithful*; and he said unto me, 'tis done, I

* Rev. xxi. 5, 6.

am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end; I will give unto him that is athirst, of the water of life freely*, and will dry up the springs, and the fountains, and the waters of death, of the great river Euphrates, and prepare a way for the Kings of the East (the rising youth) for these things saith the Lord of Hosts. Yet it is a little while, and I will shake the (Old) Heavens, and the earth, and the sea, and the dry land. And I called for drought upon the land, and upon the mountains, and upon the corn, and upon the new wine, and upon the oil, and upon that which the ground (which is cursed) bringeth forth, and upon men, and upon all the labour of the hands of men which they have wrought in the earth. God will fulfill his word upon Babylon, therefore her plagues shall come in one day, death, mourning and famine, and she shall be utterly burned with fire; for strong is the Lord God that judged her; and the Kings of the (Old Earth) who have committed fornication, and lived deliciously with her, shall bewail (no longer support) her and lament for her, when they shall see (when the Lord opens their eyes) the smoke of her burning, standing afar off her torment, saying, alas, alas, that great city Babylon, that mighty city, for in one hour is thy judgment come. The merchants of the earth (the ministers that

* Haggai v. 1, 11.

have been moving in their earthly wisdom) shall weep and mourn over her (observe the cause) for no man buyeth her (deceitful) merchandize any more; the merchandize of gold and silver and precious stones, of pearls and fine linen, and the fruits of costliness that thy soul lusted after are departed from thee, and thou shalt find them no more, for in one hour so great riches are come to nought.

By the light that flows from the sacred truths I see a day approaching wherein the foundation of the merchants of Babylon shall be shaken and removed. And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in the heavens (in the new church) saying, Hallelujah, salvation, and glory, and honour, and power unto the Lord our God, for true and righteous are his judgments, for he hath judged the great whore who did corrupt (by her corrupt ministry) the earth, with her fornications, and hath avenged the blood of his servants at her hands; and again they said, Hallelujah, and her smoke arose up for ever and ever.

The vial of the wrath of God is poured out, the wrath of God is this day revealed from heaven against all unrighteousness of man, against all wickedness and spiritual abominations, against all idolatrous worship, and all dead forms, and ordinances, and ceremonies, against all will-worship and hypocritical worshippers, against all the willings and running craft and contrivance of men, and against all false prophets and hireling

hireling ministers, under every form raised up and upheld by the power of man, and not by the immediate power, influence, and inspiration of the spirit of the most high God, against all meat and drink offerings, against all burnt sacrifices that are not seasoned with salt (with the virtue of divine grace) against all preaching, praying, and singing, and hypocritical worshippers who draw nigh to God with the lip and tongue, while their hearts are far from him. The spirit of God bears testimony against the spirit of error, manifesting the reason, which is, because man receives not the spirit of truth in the love thereof, whereby they might be saved; for this cause God gives them up to strong delusions, to believe a lie.

I am, saith the spirit of truth, the pearl of great price, the chief corner stone, the immovable rock, the foundation of the righteous in all ages; I am hid in the ground, in the centre of the heart; I am a pure uncorruptible spirit, which in all ages entereth into holy souls, making them friends of God, and prophets; I make all things new; I take away the stony heart and give unto all my disciples a heart of flesh; I write thereon my laws; I teach my children to be just, to do unto others as they would be done unto; I lead into the low vallies, and cause my lambs to feed in the green pastures of life; I put them forth and go before them, they know my voice and follow me, and the voice of a stranger they will not follow; I am the way to

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the kingdom of peace and of joy, no man entereth but by me.

I call unto you this day, ye inhabitants of the old heavens, the old church, and you that are dwellers upon the old earth (in the old state) hear ye my voice, and receive me into your houses (into your hearts) and I will take up my abode with you, and be unto you a never-failing spring of divine refreshment; I will be your support in the time of affliction, I will comfort you in the time of trouble, and deliver you in the day of temptation, and give you power over all the evil spirits of error, and I will lead you into all truth, and abide with you for ever. I am come, saith the spirit of light, to enlighten those that sit in darkness; I am the light of the world, the true light that lighteneth every man that cometh into the world, my light shineth into the spirits of men who receive me, and abide under my power and influence; I lead them out of a state of darkness; I translate out of earth into the kingdom of heavenly light; by me all things are made manifest, the hidden things of darkness; I discover to my disciples the foundations of the mystery of iniquity, and the secret working of the dark power of the spirit of witchcraft and sorcery which hath prevailed, ruled, and reigned both in the old heavens and in the old earth, whereby the understanding of the inhabitants have, and are become darkened, alienated, reprobated, and separated from the spirit of light. The cause lies in man, in rejecting and rebelling
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against me. My revealed laws, statutes and doctrines, which in ages and generations that are past I revealed unto my children, ministers and ambassadors, and gave them commission to preach and publish unto men.

I call unto you, ye inhabitants of the city of Norwich and of the county of Norfolk, and of this and other nations, by my disciple whom I have chosen, called, and qualified for this work, receive the message I have given him to communicate unto you, admit the rays, the beams of heavenly light that flow from me the fountain, the sun of the spiritual and celestial kingdom. I am the fountain, the spring of all joy, and consolation both of angels and men, and the foundation of harmony, concord, peace and unity; my peace I give unto my children, not as the (wicked) world giveth give I, my peace I leave with them, my word is to those in this age that receive me and abide under my influence, and obey my voice, and follow my leadings, Fear not, little flock, it is your Father's good pleasure to give you a kingdom of light and of love, of peace and of joy unspeakable, and full of glory; my ministers song is glory to God in the highest, on the new earth peace and good will toward (all) men.

Hear my voice, faith the word of God, I am a living eternal principle, by me were all things created, by me all things are upheld, and by me all things must be restored and brought into order, by me fallen man must be regenerated

rated and born again, and brought into a state of childlike simplicity and innocency ; I am the resurrection and the life, he that believeth in me, although he were dead, yet shall he live, and he that liveth and believeth in me shall never die. The time is come foretold by the prophet, that the hills should flow with milk ; come ye children and drink of the milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby ; come and suck at the breasts of consolation, and drink of the new wine of the kingdom, receive those doctrines that flow from the fountain of heavenly wisdom ; he that believeth in me, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. I am a spring of living waters in men (that receive me) springing up in the soul into eternal life ; be ye strengthened with might in the inward man, be ye strong in the Lord, for the day of battle is near.

By the light that flows from these precious pearls (truth) I see the approaching day wherein him, with whom there is all power, will raise up a mighty army, and clothe them with the whole armour of light. This army appears to me to be the greatest that ever my Lord and Master raised up upon this terrestrial globe, and for the greatest and most noble purpose, to extinguish and expel all the inhabitants of the infernal regions, all evil angels and spirits of every rank, order, and nature, for out of his mouth (the word) goeth a sharp sword, that with it he should smite the nations (this sword shall likewise

wife proceed from the mouths of his ministers) and he shall rule them with a rod of iron, and he treadeth the wine press of the fierceness and wrath of Almighty God. As men receive the word, the spirit of light and love, and live and move under its powerful influence, and obey its divine commands.

Love God above all, and thy neighbour as thy self, and do unto others as thou wilt be done unto. In this state the soul of man experience the spirit of love in him to overcome the spirit of wrath, and leaven into its own heavenly nature. This I trust will be universally the happy state of mankind. Probably the reader will say, John, thou writest of strange things about a new heaven and a new earth, and that there shall be no more deadly sea, and the floodgates of wickedness shall be shut, and the fountains and streams and rivers of iniquity shall be dried up, and the waters of life shall flow freely, and the most High will pour forth of his spirit upon sons and daughters, and raise a free, living, powerful ministry, that shall move under the influence and inspiration of the spirit of light, life and love; by whose ministry mankind shall be converted and turned unto God, and the nations shall no longer lift up sword against nation, neither shall the people learn war any more. These are great and wonderful changes; what reason can thou give for thy conclusions? What is the foundation of thy faith that these things will come to pass, as secret things belong unto God,
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but things that are revealed unto us and to our children? I find freedom to relate, it was about forty years since I was favoured with a sight of the above vision*, and concluded it was not for myself only, but for the strength, comfort, and consolation of others in the day of trouble, when it comes, in the day of fiery trial, in the day of great tribulation, which appears very near, nearer than many are aware of; the Lord will visit with a rod, in his anger, the inhabitants of this nation for their abominations, for their wickedness and transgressions of his divine law, and rebellion against his holy commandments. Put on sackcloth, mourn and weep, and let us as with the voice of one man cry mightily unto God, cast us not away for ever from thy holy presence, let thine eye pity, look down from heaven, thy holy habitation, with an eye of compassion upon us, the workmanship of thy holy hands, and bless us, by turning every one from the evil of our ways and doings, and turn us with full purpose of heart unto thee. O thou, whose tender mercies are over all thy works, that thou mayest return unto us, choose us for thy people, and thou be our God; be thou our father, and make us thy obedient children; teach us, feed us with the bread of life, and guide us by thy council unto Mount Sion, the place where thine honour dwells, that we might bow in humble prostration, adoration and worship unto thee (no longer unto men) honour, dominion and glory,

* See the Preface.

who

who art worthy to reign in and over all, for ever and ever. Amen.

Upon a solid consideration of divers passages of holy writ, I am more and more induced to believe the great and good change that shall shortly come to pass of a religious and spiritual nature, and I have no doubt, but as the divine principle of truth is received, and prevails, and reign in the christian churches, and in the ministers of the gospel of life and salvation, as the light of the sun of righteousness shines in its glory and splendour, it will disperse the dark clouds of error and delusion, as the warm beams of the sun, when it shineth in brightness upon the outward creation, and by its powerful influence cleanses and purifies the air, and as it is by the light, heat, and operation of the sun and air the life of man is preserved, and by it nourished and strengthened, and as the heavens are to the earth, making it fruitful, in like manner as the light, power, wisdom and glory of the spirit of God prevails and reigns in the church over all the power, wisdom and glory of the spirit of man, this divine power, arising into dominion in the spirit of the gospel ministers, as these receive the divine light by influx, they will be as lights in a dark world; as a city that stands upon a hill that cannot be hid, others seeing their good works will glorify their father, in the day of heavenly visitation, as these stars (ministers abiding in their appointed stations, moving in the orb of power and wisdom, shining

ing in the light of the glory of God); it is by this light the understandings of the inhabitants of the earth shall be enlightened.

Rejoice ye with Jerusalem, and be glad with her all ye that love her, rejoice with joy for her all ye that mourn for her, that ye may suck and be satisfied with the breasts of consolation, that ye may milk out and be delighted with the abundance of her glory; for thus saith the Lord, behold I will extend peace to her like a river, and the glory of the Gentiles like a flowing stream. Sing, O inhabitants of the (new) heavens, and be joyful, O earth, and break forth into singing, O mountains, for the Lord hath comforted his people, and will have mercy on his afflicted. My soul rejoiceth under a sense of the abundant glory that shall be revealed ere this generation passeth away; the day spring from on high that hath visited us; a day of universal peace, restoration, and salvation is approaching; God will fulfil his word, they shall not hurt nor destroy in all my holy mountain, for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. The Lord began this great and glorious work in and among the people called Quakers, in the morning of the day of heavenly visitation, and he poured out his spirit upon, and redeemed them from under the power, influence and government of the dark spirit of wrath, redeemed from evil, and brought them under the power, influence and government of the meek spirit of the lamb of God,

God, who taketh away the sins of the world. As these walked in the light of his spirit, they experienced reconciliation and salvation, as they walked in the light; as God dwelt in the light they enjoyed fellowship with the father and with his Son, and religious fellowship one with another.

I am induced to give this account of this people or church as it appears a pattern a model of the new church, which will be built by the mighty hand of the Lord, who will lay the foundation with precious polished stone. John saith, and I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away, and there was no more sea; and I, John, saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared, as a bride for her husband, and I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, behold the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them and be their God. I observed before, the society of the people called Quakers in the morning of the day of heavenly visitation, that they were a pattern, a model of the new church which the Lord will build, form, and fashion, consistent with his power, wisdom and glory.

The reader will probably enquire, John, what was the particular state of these people which thou hast recommended as an example to the members of the new church, the inhabitants of

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the new heaven and the new earth, I answer, by the excellency of the heavenly fruit of divine love, which was evidently manifested in and among them, by the same rule which the Son of Wisdom laid down; by this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye love one another. Love is the foundation of the church of God, wrath is the foundation of the synagogue of satan; by this, saith the apostle to the primitive christians, we know we are passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that hateth his brother is a murderer, and we know that no murderer hath eternal life. My desire and labour is to draw mankind out of woe and misery into peace and joy, out of hell into heaven, out of the hands of satan into the power and under the dominion of the spirit of the most high God, to translate out of the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of light, out of error and delusion, from under the influence and power of the spirit of forcery and witchcraft to and under the government and influence of the spirit of truth, life, light, and love; and as I build upon a sure foundation, the heavenly doctrines of the Son of God, the gates of hell, or all the powers of earth shall not be able to prevail against me. It is possible this shell, the outward covering, the human body, may be permitted to suffer for this testimony against spiritual wickedness, in high places against the rulers in the kingdom of darkness. My trust is in that arm of divine power
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that has been made bare for my help, and delivered in the time of trouble and distress, in days that are past, which will support under every proving dispensation, in time to come.

I write this for your encouragement whom the Lord shall count worthy not only to believe but to suffer for his name sake, in the near approaching dark and gloomy day of tribulation; this was the state of many of the beforementioned people, for the testimony which the Lord gave them to bear against the evils in the world, against the false prophets, the hireling ministers under every name, and against the antichristian yoke of tythes, in this also they are worthy of imitation, and in their testimony against the pride and vanity of the world, that laid in wickedness; as these people received the divine gift, the grace of God, it taught them to live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present evil world, doing justly and loving mercy, doing unto others as they should be done unto, fulfilling the royal law of God, and as these noble valiants drank deep draughts of the fountain of the streams of the spring of divine love, their spirits became leavened into its holy nature, became strong in the Lord, and in and by his mighty power they obtained victory and dominion over all the evil spirits of pride, covetousness, and ambition; and their swords were turned into plough-shares, and they learnt war no more. Jerusalem is a quiet and peaceable habitation, there is nothing shall hurt or destroy in all the Lord's holy mountain.

tain. This was and will be the blessed effect, the unspeakable happiness of all those, who, in humility and childlike simplicity, obey the heavenly call. Come out of Babylon, my people, partake not of her sins, lest you receive of her plagues, come out of all her ways of idolatrous worship, invented and established in the will and wisdom of the spirit of man.

Drink no longer of the cup of fornication, come and suck at the breasts of consolation, buy not of the wares of the merchants of Babylon any more, give not your money for that which is not bread, nor your labour for that which profiteth not, support no longer ministers whom God hath not sent, the people of the Lord are all taught of the Lord, and in righteousness they are established. The Lord will fulfil his gracious promises to his visited people, he will write his law in their hearts and put his spirit in their inward parts. No man need to say to his neighbour, know the Lord, they shall all know me from the greatest unto the least of them, saith the Lord. This was the testimony of a minister and ambassador sent of God to the primitive experienced christians. Ye need not that any man teach you the anointing (the divine gift) which ye have received, teacheth you all things this spirit Christ told his disciples should come in his name (spirit and power) and lead them into all truth, and abide with them for ever. My concern is to invite, to entreat my fellow mortals to hearken and hear and obey this heavenly

heavenly teacher, that their souls may live. Behold! saith the spirit, I stand at the door and knock, if any man hear my voice and open unto me I will come in and sup with him, and he with me. Come and partake of the supper of the Lord, feed no longer upon the shadow, come to the substance, eat of the bread and drink of the water of life freely.

To return again to that highly favoured people; the Lord poured forth of his spirit upon them, and raised up among them a free, living and powerful ministry, his word was a fire and flame in their hearts; under the influence of this divine principle they went forth into cities, towns and villages, high ways and hedges, to turn men from darkness to light, from satan unto God, and they passed through many great and grievous sufferings for their testimony for the cause of truth; as their day was, so was their strength, the blessing of the Almighty rested upon them, and the angel of his presence encamped about, and no weapon formed against them prospered. I write this for the encouragement of those whom the Lord will raise as standard bearers in the day of battle. The standard of truth and righteousness which is fallen in our streets shall be raised up again, and the banner of the Lord of hosts exalted and displayed in the sight of many nations, many thousands shall flock unto Sion as doves unto the windows.

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Sound the trumpet, proclaim spiritual liberty to every captive soul throughout all the land, unto all the inhabitants thereof, it shall be a jubilee unto you, this is the acceptable day of the Lord. Drop down ye (new heavens) from above and let the skies pour down righteousness, let the (new) earth open and let them bring forth salvation, and let righteousness spring up together, I, the Lord have created it. Sing, O ye heavens, for the Lord hath done it, shout ye lower parts of the earth, break forth into singing ye mountains, O forest and every tree therein, for the Lord hath redeemed Israel and glorified himself in Jacob; the end of this labour of love is, that mankind might experience and know the Lord, that he exercises judgment, mercy, and loving kindness in the earth, for in these things I delight saith the Lord.

The before-named people set a noble example in living the life of the righteous, being remarkably just in their dealings, and punctual in fulfilling their engagements, and in their brotherly kindness, and particular care of their poor; and herein they followed the precepts of the primitive christians, they had all things in common among them, not that they lost their property in the goods that they possessed, but every one distributed liberally to the needy, as God commanded his people Israel, there was not, and to this day there is not, a beggar among them. Probably some will say, John,
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thou hast given a high character of the primitive Quakers, as a peculiar people, zealous of good works, a people redeemed from iniquity and brought by a mighty hand out of spiritual Egypt through the Red Sea, where they beheld the wonders of the Lord, in the great deeps of tribulation, saw the waters divide and stand as wells on the right hand and on the left, and brought to the banks of deliverance, and sung songs of praise to the Lord, and said he is my strength and song, he is become my salvation, he is my God and I will prepare him an habitation; who is like unto the Lord amongst the Gods? Who is like thee? Glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders; this was the song of those highly favoured people in their day, and this was the song of these highly favoured people in their day, and this will be the song of the children of the morning light in the approaching day, as it was with the children of Israel who feared the Lord in the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders that overlived Joshua, and which had known all the works of the Lord that he had done for Israel. The succeeding generations forgot and forsook the God of their fathers, and did evil in his sight, the Lord forsook them and cast them off from being his people; he hid his face, his holy presence from them, and in his own time caused his glorious light to shine upon the Gentiles. As it was with the people of Israel in like manner it happened to this people in the time of
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deep suffering, like the camomile bed, the more they were trodden upon the more they grew, while they were little and low, as the low shrubs in the valley, the storms and tempest, and the strong winds passed over them; as one generation passed away, and the fathers and elders that had known the Lord were fallen asleep; another generation arose that knew not the God of their fathers, became heirs of their possessions, houses they had not, builded vineyards they had not planted, became a rich people, flourished like the branches of the tall cedars of Lebanon, bearing many leaves, but little fruit, these became as fruitless trees in the garden of God. I make these remarks to inform the serious enquirer what is the cause of the great difference of the state of the primitive and the present professors of the society of the people called Quakers; religious parents can leave their earthly inheritance to their offspring, but they cannot give them heavenly treasures, and although there has been a falling away from that state of simplicity, so conspicuous in their forefathers, yet there are a few, a little remnant preserved alive unto God, and have a living free ministry, yet in respect to the general state of the society as they have forsaken the Lord, it appears to me he has forsaken them, as his peculiar people he has covered Zion as with a cloud in his anger, and cast down from heaven to the earth the beauty of Israel. I mourn for Zion, her walls are
breaking

broken, her gates are burnt with fire, Zion sits as a desolate widow, few come to her solemn feasts.

Although this is the present state of this people, yet the Lord will call from among them workmen, he will endue them with strength and wisdom, skill and understanding, to repair the breaches, to build again the walls that are broken down, the waste and desolate places of Zion shall be inhabited, this great and glorious work is upon the wheel, Jerusalem shall become an eternal excellency and the praise of the whole earth.

I conclude it right in me to point forth the blessed and happy state of the inhabitants of this new and ancient city, it is called new to distinguish it from the old city of Babylon, which the inhabitants of the old heavens and of the old earth have been many years a building under the direction of their own evil spirit, craft and contrivance; like unto the builders of Babel, who said, go to, let us build us a city and tower whose top may reach unto heaven; similar to the language of the builders of the city of Babylon (the antichristian church in this and preceding ages) let us build a city (a church) and by the might of our spirits, let us build a tower according to our own imaginations, whose top may reach unto heaven, that by the strength of our own wisdom, we may penetrate into the secret counsels of the most high God, and let us by

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the strength of our own understanding open the cabinet of the deep mysteries of the kingdom of heaven, and let us make us a name that we might become established as a church, and let us seek to the rulers on earth for support and protection, that we be not scattered abroad upon the face of the earth. Hear, ye Babel builders, the word of the Lord; I have beheld the work of your hands, I have seen, and I will raze and remove the foundation of your building, and bring to nought your secret counsels, for I will raise and cause to come up against Babylon an assembly of great nations from the north country, and they shall set themselves in my name, and she shall be taking their arrows, shall be as a mighty expert man, none shall return in vain, because of the wrath of God; it shall not be inhabited, it shall be wholly desolate, every one that goeth forth by Babylon shall be astonished and hiss at her plagues; put yourselves, ye noble valiants, for the cause of truth, in array against Babylon, round about, all ye that bend the bow, shoot at her, spare no arrows, for she hath sinned against the Lord; shout against her round about, cry aloud, her rotten foundations are fallen, her walls are thrown down, for it is the day of the vengeance of the Lord, take vengeance upon her, as she hath done, do unto her. Jeremiah the 50th. Read the chapter, and solidly consider and weigh this important subject. The earthly

earthly city of Babylon is a type, a figure of the city of spiritual Babylon, the church of antichrist, which God will destroy.

And a mighty angel, a minister sent of God, took up a stone like a great millstone, and cast it into the sea, saying, thus suddenly with violence shall the great city Babylon be thrown down, and shall be found no more at all.

I am this day sent as a little messenger to forwarn, to awaken out of a state of stupidity and spiritual lethargy, and to call upon the inhabitants of the great city of Babylon to come out and flee as for their lives. Go forth ye harpers, musicians, and pipers, go forth ye preachers, ye ministers of antichrist, and ye lifeless formal prayers and singers, for the Lord hath decreed the voice of harpers, musicians, pipers, and trumpeters, shall be heard no more at all in thee, and no craftsman, of whatever craft he be, or whatever his attainments in human wisdom, skill, or might and understanding, the voice shall be no more heard at all in thee; and the light of the candle (the spirit of man) shall shine no more in thee, the light of the spirit of God shall shine, the light of heavenly wisdom in the ministers of the gospel shall shine in its ancient brightness, splendour, and glory over all, in the church, in the temple, in the tabernacle which God hath pitched on earth, and not men, for thy merchants were great men of the earth, for by thy sorceries were all nations of the earth deceived. I write

in faith and full assurance of the fulfilling and accomplishment of these prophecies and visions which God revealed to his servants the prophets in former ages, for the information, comfort and consolation of his children in this and in ages that are to come, that they might have hope, and this hope might be as an anchor to their souls, in the times of storm and tempest. It is clear to my understanding that the heavenly armies which the King of kings will raise up in this age, and send forth against the strong holds of satan to destroy all his work, these must endure great tribulation. I have seen their day of fiery trial in the vision as mentioned in the preface of a deep suffering dispensation to the inhabitants of this nation, which I will repeat again, appear very near; after (or in) this day, the Most High will bow the heavens, and come down and visit in an extraordinary manner the inhabitants of the earth, with a clear day of heavenly light, and in an abundant manner pour forth of his spirit upon the spirits of the rising generation, call and qualify them for his work and service, and pour upon the heads of his faithful ministers the holy consecrating oil, and cloath them with garments of fine white linen, with the breast-plate of precious polished stone of light and wisdom, truth and innocency, purity and sincerity, in that day of gospel light. I charge you whom my great Lord and good master shall in his wisdom call into the sacred work of the ministry, and sanctify your spirits, remember

member ye the command of the Lord, to Aaron do not drink wine nor strong drink, thou, nor thy sons with thee, when ye go into the tabernacle of the congregation, lest ye die; it shall be a statute to my (chosen ministers) for ever throughout your generation, and that ye may (be qualified to) put difference between holy and unholy, clean and unclean; that ye may teach the children of Israel all the statutes which the Lord hath spoken unto them, by the hand of Moses; to this I will add my own experience. Some years back, while waiting upon my good, yea very good master, I heard his voice, saying, thou shalt not eat meat nor drink wine, thou shalt be holy unto me saith the Lord. It was shewn unto me what was good and what the Lord my God required of me. I was obedient for a while, left off eating flesh of any kind, and drinking wine also, but concluding nature would not bear such a sudden change both in eating and drinking instead of wine I substituted small mead, and by degrees indulged myself with wine and water, and afterwards wine, not to intoxication, for, from my childhood, I have been preserved from that great evil. That my conduct may prove a caution to others, I freely acknowledge, when I have been putting a glass of wine to my mouth, I have been secretly smitten by the swift unerring witness for God in my own breast. I make this acknowledgment with shame and confusion of face, that none of my brethren, the children of the morning light in
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the approaching day of heavenly visitation, might reason with flesh and blood, but give up faithfully in obedience to the heavenly vision, that we might wash our hands in innocency, and with a pure heart, and in humble obedience and submission to his revealed will, worship him who is of purer eyes than to behold iniquity in Jacob, or transgression in Israel, with approbation.

I write to the praise of his great name, he did not leave me nor take his holy spirit from me. I felt, and at last turned at the reproofs of instruction which are the way to life and peace; my great Lord was pleased to visit me again in the following manner; in the night-season, in a dream, I beheld a tree on the roots, on which it appeared to me I had grafted round about several branches, and of a sudden I saw this tree razed from its foundations, and the branches I had grafted upon its root with it, and the tree fell against a hedge, and the roots of the tree and the branches which I had grafted upon them, although raised and loosed, yet lost not their hold entirely in the earth; and I heard a clear distinct voice saying unto me, except thou repent and turn with full purpose of heart unto me, sayeth the Lord, I will not bless the work of thy hands*. This terrible denunciation of divine displeasure awakened me, both out of my natural

* I was engaged at this time in writing and in planting and improving of land over which my good master had made me steward.

sleep and in a measure from spiritual lethargy, my soul bowed in humble contrition, I mourned under a sense of unfaithfulness in this matter, and concluded to deny myself, and take up my cross and follow my Lord and master in the way of his holy leading. Although about sixty-seven years of age, I am but a young convert to this abstemious way of living, to drink no wine or strong drink. The first day I left off my spirits were a little lower than common, from that time I feel myself as well as ever.

I have thought that this was required of me that I might be an example to the ministers and members of the new church, the inhabitants of the new heavens and of the new earth, which the most high will create by the word of his power. I am at present joined in religious connection with no society, am waiting to behold the bride, the beloved spouse, the lambs wife (the true church) come out of the wilderness, leaning upon the breast of her beloved, cloathed with the sun, with heavenly light, and the moon, all that is terrestrial under her feet, and upon her head is a crown of twelve stars; times and seasons are in the hands of the Almighty; it is very uncertain whether another opportunity will offer to address you new born babes, children of the morning light, born again of the immortal seed, the word, the spirit of God, not of the will of man, but of the will of God.

I have

I have travelled with deep sympathy with you under a view and living sense of the deep trials which ye must pass through; the great red dragon the serpent will cast out of his mouth floods of waters, that he might cause you to be carried away with the floods of persecution. I have seen a day of violent persecution approaching, wherein many of the precious servants of God, for their faithful testimony which he will give them to bear in his name, will be banished out of the nation; this will be a day of fiery trial, to be separated from all earthly enjoyments and connections, and sent into a strange land, the husband separated from his beloved wife, children from their beloved parents, dragged as transgressors to the prison, and from prison on board vessels for to be transported as felons beyond the seas. I must honestly confess, while writing this message, my soul is baptized into deep sympathy with the precious suffering seed whom I salute in the language of the prophet, fear not, worm Jacob, I have called thee by name, when thou go through the fire, the flames shall not kindle upon thee, and through the waters, the floods shall not overwhelm thee; thy enemies are but as instruments in the hands of the Lord, to prepare, to polish you as precious stones that shall shine in splendour, brightness, and glory, thou shalt become the beauty of nations, and the blessing of the God of Israel shall rest upon you, and go with you, and his
light

light shall shine upon your tabernacle; and he will reveal the mysteries of his kingdom, and open unto you the treasures of wisdom and of light, and give you wise and understanding hearts, he will be your father, and ye shall be his sons and daughters in whom he will delight. Fear not, ye tender heavenly babes the rage and wrath of men, their power is limited, not a hair of your heads shall fall to the ground without your heavenly Father's permission; he will make all things to work together for good to those that love and fear him, by the unmerited mercy of the most high. I can bear testimony of his never-failing arm, which is made bare for the support, protection, and deliverance of all those that put their trust therein.

I am firmly persuaded this day of persecution, violent persecution of the members of the true church, is very near, not only from a sight and sense with which I was favoured in the aforementioned vision, but from the sacred records, as it appears to me to be the dispensation wherein the sixth Angel poured out his vial of the wrath of God upon the great river Euphrates, and the waters thereof are dried up. I say again, heavenly light has clearly discovered to the Lord's servants, and will discover to many thousands, the deadly effect and dreadful consequence to the inhabitants of the old heavens (the antichristian church of the old earth) who have been drinking of the wine of the waters of fornication, drinking of the polluted poisonous waters (doctrines) that flow from the fountain

of human wisdom; the spirit saith, all the waters that flow from this river, all the streams shall be dried up, and there shall be no more sea. I understand, by the old heaven and earth and sea passing away, to be works of the hands of men and not of God, which are good and abide for ever, it is the works of men, the heavens, the church, which they have built, formed, and fashioned, according to their own wisdom, craft and contrivances, for their own honour, interest and glory. The word is going forth, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them and be their God, and shall wipe away all tears from their eyes, and there shall be no more spiritual darkness, neither sorrow nor crying, neither shall there be any more death, for the former things are done away; and he that sat upon the throne said, behold I make all things new; and he said unto me, write, for these things are true and faithful. And he said unto me 'tis done, I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, I will give to him that is a-thirst of the waters of life freely, and he that overcometh shall inherit all things; and I will be his God, and he shall be my son.

Blessed be all those that receive, believe and experience the fulfilling of these gracious promises for themselves, for the kingdom of heaven is within men.

To return, at the drying up of the great waters of the river Euphrates, the evil angels, the
ministers

ministers of satan, the merchants of Babylon shall cast dust upon their heads, saying, alas, alas, that great city, wherein had been made rich all that had ships in the sea, by reason of her costliness, for in one hour she is made desolate; when the hireling ministers of antichrist, under the various names, see their traders lost, the ways and means whereby they obtain abundance of riches are removed, at this they will be exceedingly enraged, even in the hour of the power of darkness, they shall rise up in the strength, in the might of their own power, and spirits to oppose the great work which the Lord hath begun, and which he will carry on by weak and contemptible instruments, that his own power might evidently appear and be manifested in and through them, that no flesh might glory in his presence, it is against these whom God will choose for his servants, the evil angels, and will declare war at the drying up of the great river

The prophet saw three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and of the false prophet, for they are the spirits of devils, working miracles, which go forth to the Kings of the earth to gather them to the battle of the great God Almighty.

Under this character I beheld a dark combination to destroy, if possible, the true church, which the prophet beheld with wonder from heaven; this woman cloathed with the sun and moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars, and she being with child cried

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(lifted up her voice travelling in heavenly birth and pained to be delivered) and there appeared another wonder in (the antichristan) heaven, and behold a great red dragon, having seven heads (full of subtlety) and ten horns and seven crowns upon his head. By the light that flows from these truths I see the state of the two kingdoms, the kingdom, or church of the old man Adam, wherein self-will, which is called satan, Beelzebub, and the devil, reigns and rules over his obedient subjects, saying, in the pride of his heart, I will exalt my throne above the stars of God, I will set also upon the mount of the congregations, I will govern in church and state, I will ascend above the heights of the clouds, I will transform myself, and appear like the most high.

By a ray of heavenly light I beheld the woe and misery of the inhabitants of the old heavens and of the old earth, the church and kingdom of the old man, who is called the God of this world, which beareth rule in the hearts of the children of disobedience, whose understandings are darkened, being alienated (reprobated, separated) from God, it is the offspring of Adam that are the fallen angels, spirits which are separated by their rebellion from the kingdom of heaven, and cast themselves down to hell, where they have erected for themselves a kingdom, which is full of darkness; this kingdom is discovered in the sacred oracles under various characters, under the present dispensation of the gospel, called Babylon. I saw, saith John, another

ther angel, a minister, sent of God, came down from the (new) heaven, having great power, and the (new) earth was lighted with his glory, and he cried with a strong voice saying, Babylon the great is fallen, is discovered to be the habitation of devils, and the hold of every foul spirit, and a cage of unclean and hateful birds; it is the inhabitants of this city, the children of the great whore of the false church, that which is born, and liveth after the flesh in all ages, past, present, and to come, which make war against, and persecuteth the children of the Lord, which are born again of his mighty spirit and power.

The time is near approaching wherein the eyes of the people will be opened to behold the ground, the foundation of the church of God, and of the synagogue of satan. *I have heard a voice from heaven saying, it is my determined counsel to visit the children of men, with the arising of my word in their hearts, which shall give them a more clear discovery of the mystery of the scriptures which hath been hid from ages.* The revelation of the mysteries of the sacred scriptures by the spirit of God, the spirit of wisdom, light, and love, is the foundation of, and the canopy of the new heavens, the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of truth; this church is cloathed with the sun, the fountain of light and truth, it is the glory of God (not of man) which lightens it, and the lamb is the light thereof, and the nations of them which are saved shall walk in the light of it,

it, and the kings of the new earth do bring their glory and honour into it; this is the glorious dispensation revealed unto, and foretold by the prophet. My soul rejoiceth under a view of the near approach of this day of gospel light, as mankind receive this light, which is breaking forth, which shines, and will shine and become as the light of seven days.

The seventh angel is preparing to sound his trumpet, in this last dispensation there will be great voices in the new heaven saying, the kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of the Lord, and of his Christ; the inhabitants of this terrestrial globe will put off the old man with his corrupt deeds, and put on the new man, the second Adam, the Lord from Heaven, the quickening spirit. Here lies the ground of the mystery of the two births, which is earthly and heavenly. Every birth bears the image of that spirit of which it is born, the son of heavenly wisdom taught the mystery of a new birth. Except a man is born again of (heavenly) water, and of the spirit, he cannot see, and except he be converted and become as a little child he cannot inherit or enter the kingdom of heaven. Men must, by an humble submission to the work and operation of the spirit of God, experience a death unto sin, and a new birth unto righteousness. Man's will must be subdued and brought into subjection, that with integrity of heart he may truly say, not mine but thy will be done; it is by the living powerful word, the
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mighty spirit, the son of God, that mankind must experience in and for themselves, redemption and deliverance from under the power and dominion of this kingdom of darkness; this was the end of the manifestation of the coming of the Son of Divine Wisdom to redeem mankind from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works; the command of God to his people was and is, be ye holy, as I the Lord am holy; again, be ye perfect, as your heavenly father is perfect. The word of the Lord is to them that fear him. Behold I will send my messenger and he shall prepare the way before me, and the Lord, whom ye seek, shall suddenly come to his temple, even the messenger of the covenant, whom ye shall delight in, behold he shall come, saith the Lord of Hosts, he, who may abide the day of his coming, and who shall stand the day of his appearing, for he is like a refiner's fire, and like fuller's soap; and he shall set as a refiner with fire, and he shall purify the sons of Levi, and purge them as gold and silver, that they may offer unto the Lord, as in the days of old, as in former years. This word is for you whom the Lord will call unto his holy habitation, he will purify you in the furnace of affliction, ye shall become as pure gold seven times tried in the fire, the King of kings will stamp his image upon you. I feel the love of my heavenly father to flow as a river, as a mighty stream, toward the young and rising generation, whom
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the Lord will choose for his sons and daughters, and they shall be as the first born of many brethren, and as the first fruits unto God, in whom he will be glorified, and his glory shall be as a crown and diadem upon their tabernacle; for from the rising of the sun to the going down of the same, my name shall be great among the gentiles, and in every place incense shall be offered unto my name, and a pure offering unto my name shall be great among the heathens saith the Lord of Hosts; and it shall be in that day that living waters (heavenly doctrines) shall go out from jerusalem, and the Lord shall be King over all the (new) earth, in that day there shall be but one Lord, and his name one. I mention these passages of the sacred oracles to prove the universal love of God to the whole bulk of mankind, the workmanship of his holy hands; and the day of universal restoration mankind must return by the door they went out. Those that minister in the word and doctrine in and among the people of the Lord, must wait at the posts of heavenly wisdom to hear her voice, and to fill the arising of divine power into dominion in their spirits. Wisdom is the breath of the power of God, and pure influence flowing from the glory of of the Almighty; she is the brightness of the everlasting light, the unspotted mirror of the power of God, and the image of his godliness, she can do all things, she maketh (createth) all things new, and in all ages entereth into holy souls

souls; she maketh them friends of God, and prophets; wisdom saith to her children, without me ye can do nothing, I am the root of life, I am the vine, ye are the branches; as the branches cannot bear fruit except it abide in the vine, no more can ye, except ye abide in me. The spirit of wisdom (which is the son of God) saith, my sheep (my ministers) know my voice, I put them forth and go before them, they follow me, and the voice of a stranger they will not follow; my words they are spirit and they are life, by which the spirits of the dead are quickened, nourished, and strengthened, and preserved alive to God. Ye inhabitants of the new Heavens, and of the new earth, remember ye the exercises of the young King of Israel, who saith, I prayed, and understanding was given me, I called upon God (not man) and the spirit of wisdom came to me, I preferred her before sceptres, and esteemed riches nothing in comparison; I loved her above health and beauty, and chuse to have her in estimation beyond all earthly good, so that all good things may meet together; there is with wisdom innumerable riches, I rejoice in them all because wisdom goeth before them, I learned diligently and do communicate liberally, I do not hide her riches, for she is a treasure unto men that never faileth, which they that use become the friends of God. As men turn their eyes from men, and look with a single eye unto God, their whole bodies shall be full of light, and as they walk in the light, as God is in the light, they will expe-

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rience fellowship with him, and their language
 will flow; come and have fellowship with us,
 as truly our fellowship is with the Father and the
 Son; come and let us assemble ourselves together,
 and in the silence of all flesh wait upon God to
 feel our spirits attracted by his spirit, virtue, and
 power, and draw us nigh unto God, and he will
 draw nigh unto us, and teach us of his ways,
 and we will walk in his paths. Experience
 teacheth all the children of wisdom, that her
 ways are pleasantness, and paths peace; my heart
 is enlarg'd in that love that seeketh the happiness
 of the inhabitants of the whole universe. I tra-
 vel in birth till Christ the spirit of wisdom, light
 and love, the word of God, the heavenly seed
 which is sown, be formed and fashioned, and by
 its divine power, form and fashion the spirits of
 the children of men into its heavenly likeness;
 as mankind in their natural state have borne the
 image of him that is earthly in like manner, in
 and by the virtue of the regenerating power, they
 may henceforth bear the heavenly image of in-
 nocency, purity, and holiness, which is the image
 of God, in which man was created and ordained
 in the wisdom of God, to govern the world in
 equity and justice, and with an upright heart,
 the inhabitants of the Heavens and the earth,
 which the Most High will create. This mighty
 work must be begun, and by the spirit of wis-
 dom, in the spirits of mankind; as by the pride
 and disobedience of men, darkness and death en-
 tered in the world; in like manner, by the hum-
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ble subjection and obedience of man to the divine will, heavenly life and light shall come into, and prevail, conquer, overcome, and reign in man over the kingdom of darkness; as, faith the wise men, incorruption bringeth us near unto God, therefore the desire of wisdom bringeth men to a kingdom of glory, for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed; for this corruptible body must put on and be clothed with the spirit of incorruption, and this mortal must put on the spirit of immortality, and he will swallow up death in victory, and the Lord will wipe away tears from all your eyes, and the rebuke of his people shall he take away from all the earth, for the Lord hath spoken it, and he will destroy in this his holy mountain, the face of the covering, the cloud of spiritual darkness cast over all people, and the veil that is spread over all nations.

By the light of these sacred truths, I behold the shadows of the evening passing away swiftly, and the light of the morning breaking forth; and it shall come to pass in these last days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established on the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow unto it, and many people (faithful ministers) shall go, (run to and fro) and say, (as I do this day) come ye and let us go up to the house of the Lord, to the mountain of the God of Jacob, and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths, for out of Zion shall go forth the law and

the word of the Lord from Jerusalem (the new church), and he the Lord shall judge amongst the nations, and shall rebuke many people, (reader believe), and they shall beat their swords into plough-shares, and their spears into pruning hooks, nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O House of Jacob! come and let us walk in the light of the Lord

I conclude I have produced passages out of the sacred records sufficient to convince those who have eyes to see and a heart to receive and believe the word of the Lord, and the testimony which he gave his servants to bear in his name concerning the present dispensations; and I can do no better than refer the christian reader to my great Lord and master, and pray unto him for wisdom and light; it is the inspiration of the Almighty that giveth spiritual understanding; the most high revealeth the mysteries of his kingdom to his subjects, immediately and instrumentally as it seemeth good in his sight, giving to every one a sufficient measure and manifestation of his spirit of grace, light, and love to profit with all; and the command of the son of wisdom to his disciples is, while I and my father work, work ye; as I bear testimony concerning a new (church) heaven and earth. Before I conclude, I believe it my duty according to the measure of the grace communicated to give a description of this kingdom, and of the government, and the attendance of the ministers of state and ambassadors, and of the

the judges, and of the happiness of the inhabitants of the land; as the heavens are higher than the earth, the kingdom of God is exalted in wisdom, power, and glory above the wisdom, power, and glory of the kingdom of this world; as there is so many sacred testimonies left upon record, concerning the greatness of the power and glory of the kingdom, and the goodness and tender compassion and loving kindness of my Lord and master to all those that obey his voice; that I shall not at present enlarge thereon, the ministers of the Lord of hosts that approach the throne of his glory are all noblemen, cloathed with the garments of innocency, purity, and integrity, and having a star upon their breasts which shine in great lustre, those ministers and ambassadors when they approach the presence of their Lord and master that sits upon the throne, it is in awful fear, and in solemn silence, admiration, adoration and worship they bow before him; and in humble prostration patiently wait to know his holy will, and to hear his gracious voice, and attend to the pointing of his finger, and to move into the service that tends to the exaltation of his great name, and to the information, comfort and consolation of his sons and daughters who are waiting and looking with a single eye, and their dependance is upon their heavenly Father for heavenly bread, by which they are nourished, strengthened and preserved alive, unto whom they render and ascribe all the praise, honour and glory who is worthy for evermore, Amen.

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In the simplicity of my heart, and in childlike innocency I write these truths as they present themselves, as it has fallen to my lot to discover the foundation of that ministry and form of worship which stand in the will and wisdom of fallen man; peradventure some will query, John how and in what manner should the members of the new church perform acceptable worship; to those honest enquiries I answer, let them meet together, and in solemn silence retire to the divine gift of God's holy spirit within, and patiently wait to feel this divine spirit, to prepare in the heart a pure offering, seasoned with grace (the salt of the new covenant) which shall ascend as a sweet smelling sacrifice, holy and acceptable unto God.

The hour is come, those that worship God aright must worship him in spirit and in truth; for such the Father seeks to worship him. The preparation of the heart is of the Lord, as his servants wait to feel his preparing power; this power will arise into dominion and overshadow the solemn assembly of the Lord's humble dependant children, upon whom he will work mightily, and appear in the midst of them, and raise up and qualify by his spirit for the work of the ministry, and put his word, which is as a fire, into their hearts. From this living eternal word arises a flame of divine love, as this love prevails over all in the spirits of the ministers, constraining them by its powerful influence to speak a word in season to the information, comfort, and consolation

consolation of the family of God. Herein lies the true ground of spiritual worshippers and ministers, in which the holy spirit is the author, Alpha and the Omega, the creator and finisher; and I testify this divine spirit is the ground of spiritual worship, wherein the spirits of the Lord's children have free admittance into his holy presence, in which his heavenly life, and at whose right hand there is fulness of joy and pleasures for evermore. And I testify this divine spirit is the origin, the foundation, and spring of living ministry, the entrance of the word of the Lord giveth life. I am come, saith the spirit, that mankind might have heavenly life, and that they might have it more abundantly (than in former dispensations.) I will arise in my holy habitation, in my holy tabernacle, my delight is in the habitable parts of the earth.

I am the promised seed of the woman, the bride, the lamb's wife, (the true church) I am the heavenly birth; I will bruise the head of the serpent and destroy the enmity, and break down the partition wall, and open a new and living way (of worship) whereby the spirits of the children of men shall enter into paradise, and have free access unto and eat of the fruit of the tree of life which stands in the midst of (in the centre of the soul) the paradise of God; I am the inexhaustible fountain, the spring from which the pure river of the water of life flows clear as crystal, which runs through the midst of
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the city; whosoever drinks of the streams of this river shall thirst no more.

I Jesus have sent my angel this day to testify unto you these things; in the new church I am the root and offspring of David, the bright and morning star; the spirit and the bride say come, and let him that is athirst for God come; whosoever will, let him take of the waters of life freely. By the light of these truths I behold the excellency of the wisdom, virtue, power, and glory of that worship and ministry, and doctrine, which proceedeth out of the throne of God, and of the lamb; the lion of the tribe of Judah the root of David hath prevailed to open the book of the sacred oracles, the scriptures, and to loose the seven seals thereof; and I beheld, and lo! in the midst of the throne, and of the four beasts (the new states) and in the midst of the elders (members of the new church) stood a lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns (perfection of strength), and seven eyes (perfection of light) which are the seven spirits of God sent forth into all parts of the (new) earth, to enlighten every inhabitant thereof; and he came and took the book out of the right hand of him that sit upon the throne; and when he had taken it, the four-and-twenty elders (the members of the new church) fell down before the lamb, having every one of them harps and golden vials (purified hearts) full of odours (pure incense), which are the prayers of the
Saints,

Saints, and they sung a new song, (in the new church) saying, thou art worthy (not man) to take the book and unloose the seals (the mysteries thereof) for thou wast slain and hast redeemed us by thy blood (life and virtue) out of every kindred and tongue, and people and nation, and hast made us unto God, spiritual kings and priests, and we shall reign on the (new) earth. And I beheld and heard the voice of many angels (ministers) round about the throne of God; and the beasts and the elders (governors in state and church) and the numbers of them was ten thousand, and thousands thousands saying with a loud voice, worthy is the lamb that was slain (in Babylon) to receive power and riches, and wisdom and strength, and honour and glory, and blessing, and every one which is in the (new) heavens and on the (new) earth, and such as are on the sea (the boundless ocean of divine love) and all that are in them heard them saying again, blessing, honour, and glory, and power be unto him (not to man) that sitteth upon the throne, and unto the lamb for ever and ever; and the four beasts (all the earthly states) said amen; and the four-and-twenty elders (all the ministers and members of the mystical heavenly body) fell down and worshipped him that liveth for ever and ever.

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True worship is a dedication of the soul unto God, and humble submission to his divine will and obedience to all his commands; and as those that fear the Lord meet together to think upon

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his name, and to wait upon him as the primitive christians, in solemn silence, until they are endu'd from on high with power, until they livingly feel the moving of the spirit of God upon the face of the great deep, and say, let there be light, and wait till the light be separated from the darkness and shine in brightness in your spirits, giving a clear sight and sense of what God requires of you, either to approach his living presence in humble speculation, or to read and expound some parts of the holy scriptures, agreeable to that ability, wisdom, and understanding, received from him; as the spirit of man stands in the counsel of God, and reads and causes the people to hear his word (they shall according to his promises) turn them from the evil of their ways, and from the evil of their doings; as the ministers of God move under the inspiration and influence of his holy spirit in reading and expounding the Lord's sacred oracles, or in bearing a living testimony from their own experience of the dealings of the most high with them, or in singing a hymn of praise to the glory of his great name; as the ministers of the Lord are filled with and baptized by the heavenly fire of the word of the spirit of wisdom, light, and love; as this divine spirit moves upon the spirits of men, and is to them mouth and wisdom, tongue and utterance, the words that flow from this fountain are spirit and life, and they beget heavenly life in the spirits of the hearers. Thus ministers and hearers are baptized together into one spirit, and all partake

partake of its power, life, and virtue, as members of the same body. Here lies the ground of communion, union of spirit, a blessed state for the children to sit together at the table of their heavenly Father, who is in the midst of them, administering to every one as it pleaseth him.

It is likely some will say, John, thou hast recommended the primitive Quakers as a pattern, a model of the new church, and as examples to the inhabitants of the new heavens and of the new earth; and thou hast also recommended to these to hear, and to read, and to expound to the assembly, as wisdom is received from the Lord; yet the present members, the descendants of that people are not in this practice when they meet together.

I desire to be tender in this, in which, as a society, they sustain deep loss by depriving themselves of the means which the Lord hath put into their hands, for their information, comfort, strength, and consolation. The practice of their forefathers in this matter is not sufficient ground for their conduct, as customs alter cases. In the time of the first rise of this people the power of the Lord overshadowed their solemn assembly in a marvellous manner; the word of the Lord went forth powerfully, yea, speaking after the manner of men, the most high came down from his holy habitation, and appeared as upon Mount Sinai, when he spake to his servant Moses, and revealed unto him his holy will immediately, and gave him written laws and sta-

tutes which should be for a light, a guide, and a rule, for his chosen people to walk by. And the Lord gave command to gather his people together, men, women, and children, and the stranger that is within the gates, that they may hear, and that they may learn to fear the Lord, and observe to do all the words of the law.

It is very clear to my understanding the sacred scriptures, I call them sacred as proceeding from God, the fountain, the invisible spirit of wisdom, cloaths and makes herself manifest to her children in a visible body; her words drop as dew, her speech distill as small rain upon the tender plants; this eternal spirit of wisdom is a spirit of life and light, by which those that receive her receive heavenly life and light, whereby their spirits are quickened and their understandings illuminated.

My spirit, while writing these truths, is baptized into a living sense of the superabundant goodness of the most high God, in the revelation of his will to mankind through, and by these sacred oracles, which are as waters, as pure streams flowing from that pure river the waters of life, which run through the midst of the city, making glad the whole heritage of God. The apostle saw the excellency of the scriptures, and the great blessing they were of to members of christian congregations, saying, whatsoever things were written aforetime, were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures (which they administer) might

might have hope; the holy scriptures are able to make us wise unto salvation through faith, which is in Jesus Christ. Again, all scripture is given by inspiration of God is profitable for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto every good work. It is evident from this testimony, the scriptures not only administer instruction, comfort, and consolation, but are powerful under divine benediction, even to perfect the man of God, and to furnish and qualify him for every good work.

I appeal to you men of understanding, who are parents, whose children are placed at a considerable distance under a sympathetical sense of the various trials and temptations they are exposed to in the time of probation: from this sympathy, ye feel your minds disposed to pay your tender offspring an affectionate visit in a written epistle to instruct, encourage, and to comfort them under the various vicissitudes of life; and although separated in the body, yet present in spirit; in your writing spiritually communication and address, those that receive your writing manifestly will receive you, those that reject it reject you. The end of these remarks is, as it has pleased our heavenly Father to reveal unto us by his spirit, the hidden mystery and the riches of of the light, and knowledge of the glory of his heavenly kingdom, prize this unspeakable privilege and blessing wherewith he hath favoured us.

Probably

Probably some will say, John, thou strongly recommendest to the members of the new church to assemble themselves together and to wait in solemn silence and turn their minds inward to the gift of God, and wait to feel the movings, the pure influence of his holy spirit, to prepare and qualify for divine worship in silent meditation and adoration, and in prayer or public testimony, or in reading the holy scriptures in singleness of heart, and expounding them. As wisdom is received from the Lord, and as the people have a capacity to receive heavenly information, comfort, strength, & consolation, this every sensible christian reader will acknowledge is good, and say, do not the professors of the christian faith in general practice the reading of those sacred writings in those places appointed for religious worship, yet by their general conduct they appear to remain in a state of ignorance and stupidity. What is the ground of the spiritual darkness and poverty and famine and death, and yet there is such an abundant spiritual riches and light in the midst of the people; this query draws me with grief back again into the painted sepulchres of the dead. I hope my stay will not be long among the door keepers of the tombs of the dry bones, in whom there is neither spiritual life or master, who are a stink in the nostrils of the most high God and his holy angels. This is a true figure, a just representation of the general state of professing christians. What tender impressions are the lifeless bones capable to receive;

ceive; they have eyes and see not, ears and hear not, destitute of all feeling, sense, or understanding, except the dead are raised, all reading and preaching is but in vain. In the name of the King of kings, the God and Father of all spirits, I this day sound the trumpet he hath put into my hand, and with lifted up voice proclaim, the mighty day of the Lord is come, all the tribes of the old earth shall mourn, and they shall see the son of man coming in the clouds of heaven (in the ministers of the new church) with power and glory; and he shall send his angels (his ministers) with a great sound of trumpet, and he shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of the new heavens to the other; and the Lord will create upon every mountain and dwelling in Zion, and upon her religious assemblies, a heavenly cloud and smoke by day, and the shining of a flaming fire by night, upon all the glory (of the church of God) shall be a defence; and there shall be a tabernacle, a shadow in the day of trial, from the heat of persecution, and for a place of refuge, and for a covert from the violent storms, and from the rain. By the light of these truths I behold the hand of the good shepherd of Israel stretched forth to gather the scattered sheep from off the barren mountains of a lifeless profession; and Sharon shall be a fold of flocks, and the valley of Achor a place for herds to lay down in for my people that have sought me; these and many other passages of sacred records set forth the glory of God, which shall rest upon Zion in these last ages of the world.

Put

Put off, O Jerusalem, the garment of thy mourning and affliction, and put on the glory that cometh from God; cast about thee a double garment of the righteousness that cometh from God (not man) and set a diadem on thy head of the glory of the everlasting; for God will shew thy brightness unto every country under heaven; for thy name shall be called of God for ever; the peace of righteousness and glory of God.

Worship, arise, arise, O! Jerusalem, and stand on high, and look about towards the (rising generation) east and behold thy children gathered from the west unto the east by the word (the spirit) of the holy one, rejoicing in the remembrance of God; for God hath appointed that every high hill (and mountain of imagination) and banks of long continuance should be cast down, and the vallies filled up to make even the ground, that Israel may go safely in the glory of God; moreover even the woods and every sweet smelling tree shall overshadow (spread) Israel by the commandment of God, for God shall lead Israel with joy in the light of his glory, with the mercy and righteousness that cometh from him, who is worthy of, and unto whom in humble prostration of soul I this day render adoration and worship, dominion, honour and glory, who is worthy thereof, and to rule and reign in heaven and on earth, in church and state, for ever and for evermore, amen.

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APPENDIX.

THE seventh angel poured out his vial (of the wrath of Almighty God) into the air, and there came a great voice out of the temple, coming from the throne, saying it is done. This passage relates not to the air of the natural world, nor to the air of the spiritual and celestial kingdom of God, which is the life and nourishment of the holy angels, and of the spirits of the children of God: consequently it is the air of the kingdom of Satan, proceeding from the breath of evil angels, and wicked spirits which are in rebellion against God. It is against the works of these exalted powers of the kingdom of darkness the wrath of God is this day revealed from heaven, from the throne of glory; the beams flowing from the sun, the fountain of heavenly light, clearly discovered the corrupted, polluted and poisonous parts of the element in which the inhabitants of the infernal regions live and move and have their being, and receive according to

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their work ; such as they sow such they assuredly reap. This is the unchangeable law of God, who giveth to every seed its own body.

By nature we are all children of wrath, and all stand upon the same ground, alike subject to the influence of the same elements of the three kingdoms, the kingdom of light, the kingdom of darkness, and the kingdom of this world ; wherein the light and the darkness is separated, and the good and evil manifested.

As the sun is the light of this world, and the air in which all creatures breathe, and by which their lives are sustained, in like manner the sun, the fountain of heavenly wisdom is the light ; and this light is the holy element, and in which the good angels and spirits live and move and have their being ; and from this element they attract and draw all their nourishment, peace, joy, comfort, and consolation : in like manner the light of the spirit of man, the light of human wisdom is the air, the element in which the evil angels and spirits, the inhabitants of the kingdom of darkness breathe, live and move, and are nourished, and draw all their peace, hope and comfort. These are the heavens which the Prophet declares should pass away, these are the elements that shall melt with fervent heat.

A strong desire hath arisen in my mind that I might attain to the knowledge of the truth, and to know the origin, the fountain of light, and also of darkness, of good and of evil ; my desire

is to know the ground of woe and misery, and the cause of the evils which attend and encompass the children of men; and as I receive light and understanding and ability to communicate liberally; my soul is a thirst & my prayer to the Most High is, that he would be pleased in his adorable condescending love to bow the heavens and to come down, and dwell in the habitable parts of the earth, and to prepare a holy habitation, wherein his light and love, wisdom and glory, may reign over the power, light, wisdom and glory of men.

My soul hungers for the fruit of the tree of life, which stands in the midst of the garden of God. O thou adorable goodness, open again the gate of Paradise, command the holy cherubins to sheath their flaming swords which pointed every way to keep the tree of life, to prevent the evil angels and the wicked rebellious spirits from eating of its heavenly fruit. O thou! with whom there is all power, send forth the seven holy angels to sound the trumpet; send forth the seven holy spirits which stand before thy throne, into all the earth; send forth the spirit of fear of thee, O Lord! into our hearts which may be unto our spirits, as a fountain of life, to preserve us from the snares of death.

Let thy fear be unto us the beginning of wisdom, and by departing from iniquity we may obtain a good understanding. Pour forth upon
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our spirits the spirit of light and of love, whereby our spirits may be enlightened, leavened into, and made partakers of thy divine nature.

Send forth, O thou! who inhabiteſt eternity, the ſpirit of peace, and the ſpirit of harmony, whereby our ſpirits may be cemented together, as children of one father. O my God! ſend forth thy holy angels with ſongs of joy, ſaying, glory to God in the higheſt, and on earth, peace and good will towards men. O thou who art glorious in holineſs, fearful in praiſes, working of wonders in the heavens above, and the earth beneath. Bleſs this the work of thy poor ſervant; fill my ſoul as a cloud with heavenly rain, which may fall upon the plants of thy right hand planting. Give me a wiſe and an underſtanding heart; open the myſteries of thy holy kingdom of grace and of truth; ſend forth the ſpirit of truth into all our hearts, to lead us unto Mount Sion, to the general aſſembly of the church of the firſt born, and to the innumerable company of ſaints and angels, and to the ſpirits of juſt and perfect men; make us to ſet together in heavenly places in thy holy preſence, that with the heart of one man all human creation may bow in humble proſtration and adoration, ſaying, great and marvellous are all thy works, Lord God Almighty, juſt and true are all thy ways, we will worſhip thee out of a pure heart, thou King of ſaints, and render to thee all praiſe, glory and dominion,

dominion, who art worthy to reign over all for ever and evermore, Amen.

As it is necessary for physicians to know the ground of disorders in the human body, in like manner it is necessary for those who administer in word and doctrine, to know the foundation of the evil disorders in the spiritual body, and from what cause they proceed. My earnest desire and travail is that my fellow creatures may be happily restored to a state of perfect health of body, and into purity of spirit, that peace and tranquillity, instead of woe and misery, might flow as a river, as a mighty stream from the fountain and well-spring of all our blessings, both spiritual and temporal, as a measure and manifestation of the good spirit of God is given to every man to profit with.

The commandments of God are as a burning lamp, the word the light of Israel is as a fire, and the holy laws as a flame; by this spirit of fire, light and flame, which hath clothed itself (if I may make use of the expression) in a visible body, made itself manifest in the sacred oracles. I propose to search the holy scriptures to find out, and as I receive understanding, to declare unto the children of men the origin of sin, the fountain of iniquity, and to make manifest the cause and the ground of woe and misery which the inhabitants of the old heavens and of the old earth have brought upon themselves, in the preceding and the present age of the world.

I humbly hope the blessing of the Most High will attend this labour of love, and cause the celestial showers of heavenly rain to descend upon my-spirit, that I may become as a plant of his right hand, planted by the rivers of waters that bringeth his fruit in his season, whose leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper. It is the blessing of the Lord which maketh truly rich and therewith adds no sorrow.

I propose to sketch out the ground of blessing and of cursing, and the cause of fruitfulness and of barrenness, of life and of death, of light and of darkness. I propose to occupy diligently with the talent of grace freely given me, and to dig deep, and if happily I may find out the foundation of the kingdom of heaven and of hell, and of illumination and delusion, that if it please the Almighty to make me instrumental in his holy hands in drawing by the cords of disinterested love, in attracting and in drawing my fellow pilgrims out of the gulph of woe and misery, out of the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of light, out of and from under the government of the spirit of wrath, into and under the government of the spirit of love. As in nature man has power by means of a few sparks flowing from mean instruments of little value, and by the light of a farthing candle can set fire to and give a light to many thousands; in like manner it is in the power

power of the Lord by the fire of his holy word to light the spirit of man, which is the candle of the Lord, and by the fire and light of this candle kindled a fire, a light and a holy flame of love in the spirits of many thousands in the Lord Jehovah, in whom is everlasting strength; in him alone I have and will put my trust, and I give unto him the praise of all his works.

The Lord will work wonders in the heavens above, the earth shall shake and the heavens shall tremble, the sun and the moon shall be dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining; the Lord shall utter his voice before his army, for his camp is very great, for he is strong that executeth his word, for the day of the Lord is great and very terrible, who can abide it? JOEL 2. 10. 11.

By the light which flows from these truths, I beheld the great darkness that at present covers the canopy of the OLD heavens (the old church) which shall pass away; the light of truth, the light of the Son of righteousness, the light of the spirit of God shall shine in its morning brightness, yea, as at mid-day, in its glory and splendour, in the solemn assemblies of the children of salvation, it is by the revelation, it is the manifestation of the light flowing, the fire of the word of God. By this light, the foundations, the kingdom of hell, and the cause of the great darkness which at present covers the understanding of the high professors of religion are clearly discovered;

discovered; and the great difference in nature and effect of those two fires. The fire of the word, the spirit of God, appears to me to be the foundation of the kingdom of heaven in men, and the fire kindled by the sparks flowing from the spirit of man, appears to be the foundation of the kingdom of hell; the cause of the blackness and the darkness, and the spiritual death that prevails in the kingdom and dominion of Satan.

O! that the eyes of the blind were opened, and that mankind would pray to the Almighty to anoint their eyes with EYE-SALVE, that they might see the misery into which they have plunged themselves.

Arise! the call of the Lord this day to the inhabitants of this nation is, arise and shine, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee; the light of truth is breaking forth out of obscurity.

As the fire in the natural sun is the essence, the life and the light of this world, and it is by its light, heat and operation which giveth birth, and by which the trees and plants and innumerable seeds and vegetables are preserved alive and become fruitful; it is by the fire of this instrument, the wonderful work of an omnipotent Being, the life of man is sustained, and his eyes illuminated, whereby he is abilitated to work in this garden of God; and it is by this light man discovers the precious from the vile, and in his

his pilgrimage on earth he beholds and avoids the pits and dangers which attend him.

As I am VERY sensible of my VERY little qualification even from natural or acquired abilities, to write concerning the wonderful works of God in the outward creation, I shall not enlarge on this subject; my present business is to point forth the riches, the blessings which God hath in store; neither grace nor glory nor any good thing will be withheld from them which fear him. To return, as the fire of the natural sun is the life and light of this world, in like manner the fire of the word of God (by which the worlds were made) is the essence, the life, the light, the nourishment, comfort, joy and consolation of all the angels, the members of the church triumphant in heaven, and of the spirit of righteous members of the militant church of God on earth; in like manner the fire of wrath in nature; the fire of the spirit of man is the essence, the life, the light and nourishment of the evil angels, the inhabitants of the infernal regions, and of the spirit of the wicked, the members of the synagogue of Satan, the church of the rebellious children of men; as their hunger, so is their food; as their food, so is their nature, either heavenly or earthly, or devilish. The spirit of man appears to me to stand in the centre of these kingdoms; man has free liberty given him of God to choose his habitation.

The prophet saw the foundation of the kingdom

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dom of darkness; behold, says he, all ye that kindle a fire, that compass yourselves about with sparks, walk in the light of your fire, and in the sparks that ye have kindled; this shall ye have of mine; ye shall lay down down in sorrow. ISAIAH, c. 50, v. 11.

Read and understand, and behold the misery ye have plunged yourselves and others, all ye teachers who have entered into the work of the ministry in your own will, and kindled a fire by the sparks of your own spirit, and blown up by the breath of your own CARNAL imagination, and walk in the light of your fire. Know ye of a truth, this is the foundation of the great darkness that covers the understanding of the children of men.

The pillars of the earth shall be shaken, and the Lord will destroy in this mountain, and the fleshy covering cast over all people, and the veil that is spread over all nations; and he will swallow up death in victory, and the Lord God will wipe away tears from all faces; and the rebuke of his people shall be taken away from off all the earth, for the Lord hath spoken it. ISAIAH, c. 25, v. 7, 8,

I travel under a deep and living sense of the cause of the many evils which attend mankind, and also of the abundant blessings which God hath in store for those who love and obey his call. Cease from man, cursed is man that trusteth in man, and that maketh flesh his arm.

Blessed

Blessed is the man whose trust is in the Lord: him will he keep in perfect peace whose mind is stayed upon him, because he trusteth in him.

I call upon the children of men to repent in dust and ashes, and no longer drink of the wine of fornication, no longer hearken to the voice of those foolish prophets whom God hath not sent; no longer to follow your blind guides, who walk in the light of their own, and not of the spirit of God; who have rejected God, and exalted themselves in the congregation of his people; who are gone into captivity, because they have no heavenly knowledge, and their honorable men are famished, and their multitude dried up with thirst; therefore hell hath enlarged herself and opened her mouth without, and their glory and their pomp, and their multitude, and he that reigneth shall descend into. ISAIAH, c. 5, v. 13, 14.

Read your portion, O ye false prophets, ye hirelings, ministers of anti-christ, under various names; how art thou fallen from heaven, O Lucifer, son of the morning, how art thou cut down to the ground which didst weaken the nations, for thou hast said in thine heart, I will ascend (into the church); I will exalt my throne above the stars of God; I will sit upon the mount of the congregation in the sides of the north; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will be like the Most High; yet thou shalt be brought down to hell, to the sides of the

pit; they that see thee shall narrowly look upon (no longer worship) thee, saying, is this the man that did shake kingdoms, that made the world as a wilderness, and destroyed the cities thereof, that opened not the house of his prisoners.*

By the light issuing from these truths, I behold the proud spirit of man to be the devil, the tormentor, the beast, the dragon, and the false prophet. I also see the dreadful calamity which those idolaters plunge themselves who forsake the living God, and bow down unto and worship and obey the voice of this dark power, which God will destroy by the breath of his mouth, and by the brightness of his arising. The light of Israel shall be for a fire, and his holy one for a flame; and it shall burn and devour his thorns and his briars in one day; and shall consume the (glory of man) the glory of his forest and of his fruitful field.

Behold the Lord, the Lord of hosts, shall lop the boughs with horror, and the high oaks shall be hewn down, and the haughty shall be humbled; and he shall cut down the thickets of the forests with iron, and Lebanon shall fall by a mighty one, the armory of heaven is opened.

God will send forth the arrows of his indignation against the workers of iniquity; in that day the Lord shall punish Leviathan, the piercing

* ISAIAH, c. 74, v. 12, 17.

serpent,

serpent, even that crooked serpent, and he shall slay the dragon that is in the sea*.

By the light of this sun of truth, I behold the beginning and the end, the ruin and destruction of the kingdom of Satan, and of the evil spirits of pride, of wrath, cruelty, covetousness, oppression and dominion; it is the breath of these evil spirits that have polluted and darkened the air; and the earth also is defiled under the inhabitants thereof, because they have transgressed the laws, changed the ordinances, breaking the everlasting covenant; therefore hath the curse devoured the earth, and they that dwell therein are desolate; therefore the inhabitants of the earth are burned, and few men left to understand the cause, for wickedness burneth as the fire (OF HELL), it shall devour the briars and the thorns, and shall kindle in the thickets of the forest, and they shall mount up like the lifting up of smoke, through the wrath of the Lord of Hosts (which is this day poured into the air); the land is darkened, and the people shall be as fuel of the fire. I mourn; with what lamentation, with what words shall I set forth my grief, under a sense of the wickedness and of the great abominations of mankind, who are as brands prepared for the fire; I feel renewed love to flow towards these; I conclude, if it was the will of God, my heavenly Father, I could freely, through divine help, lay down

* ISAIAH, C. 27, V. 1.

THE LIFE of this human body, was it required at MY HANDS, as a sacrifice, if it might be a means of the restoration and salvation of the children of men, that they might be as brands plucked out of the fire of the kingdom of wrath, and translated into the kingdom of LIGHT and LOVE. Let me reason with you, my brethren, children of one Father by creation, what is the cause of your revolution? what is the ground of your rebellion against the KING of KINGS, the LORD of LORDS? who has bewitched you? by whom are you seduced? why are you given up to work wickedness in his holy sight? from whence cometh wars? from the lust of the heart, which is deceitful, and above all things desperately wicked; this is the ground which brings forth briars and thorns. The prophet saith, and they shall look unto the earth, and behold trouble, darkness, dimness of anguish, and they shall be driven to darkness*.

By the light of these truths, I see the ground of woe and misery, of trouble and of dimness, of anguish, and thick darkness; man gropes like the blind; we grope as though we had no eyes, and stumble at noon-day as in the night; we are in desolate places, as dead men, for our transgressions are multiplied before thee, O Lord! and our sins testify against us.

* ISAIAH, c. 8, v. 22.

Come ye my brethren, come with me, and turn with full purpose of heart unto the Lord our God; let us enter into solemn covenant with him to obey his laws, and walk in the light of his commandments, and we shall hear his gracious voice, saying, I have blotted out, as a thick cloud, thy sins, return unto me for I have redeemed thee. Sing, O ye (new) heavens, for the Lord hath done it; shout ye lower parts of the (NEW) earth, break forth into singing ye mountains, O forest and every tree therein, for the Lord hath redeemed Jacob and glorified him in Israel. In a little wrath I hid my face from thee for a moment, but with everlasting kindness will I have mercy on thee.

My desires are strong to pass through the kingdom of darkness into the kingdom of light, and through the valley and shadow of death, by the gates of hell into the temple, the tabernacle of God, that I may offer upon the holy altar prayers for myself and for the whole race of mankind, saying, have mercy upon the workmanship of thy holy hands; O Lord! pardon our transgressions, wash us in the leaven of regeneration, sanctify our spirits that we may approach thy holy presence, that all nations may come and worship thee in solemn adoration, and who art worthy thereof for ever and evermore. Amen.

In my passage through this doleful vale of misery, my eyes have been turned again to take another view of the numerous company of indolent husbandmen,

husbandmen, and idle shepherds and physicians of no value, and also of the numerous armies of locusts which have arisen in the darkness of the night, and spread themselves over the face of the earth, and eaten every green thing. This was and is the complaint of the Lord, Many pastors have destroyed my vineyard, they have made it desolate, and being desolate it mourneth, it moaneth unto me, the whole land is made desolate because no man layeth it to heart; howl, ye idle shepherds, and cry and wallow (humble) yourselves in ashes, ye principals of the flock, for the day of your slaughter, and of your dispersions are accomplished, and ye shall fall like a pleasant vessel, Jeremiah xxv. 34. Read the passage, and know of a truth the controversy of God is against all those shepherds who feed themselves and feed not the flock of God with heavenly food; the controversy of my Lord and Master is with the idle husbandmen, which have forced themselves into the vineyard, and eaten the fruit, and trampled upon the precious plants, trod down the pastures to drink of the deep waters, and fouled the residue with your feet; and as for my flock, that eat that which ye have trod in, and drank that which ye have fouled with your feet, read the 34th of Ezekiel, and behold as in a glass your own states, ye teachers under the above names. I appeal to the unflattering witness for God in your own breasts, what evidence you have in yourselves; doth the spirit
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of the Lord bear witness to your spirits that you are his servants; I call upon you in my master's name to prove your commission; by what authority have you entered into the garden of God, into the work of the ministry? The day is approaching, it is nigh at hand, wherein you shall be made manifest.

A Godly jealousy hath laid hold upon my spirit; your indolence is the cause; the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is become as a barren wilderness, and as the parched ground in the desert. The land lieth desolate and the earth mourneth, the fountains and springs and the waters of life are dried up.

Woe be unto the pastors that destroy and scatter the sheep of my pastures; saith the Lord God of Israel, I am against the pastors that feed my people; ye have scattered my flock and driven them away and have not visited them. Behold I will visit upon you the evils of your doings, saith the Lord.

Hear ye professors of Christianity, saith the Lord of hosts, hearken no longer unto the words of the FALSE prophets that prophesy unto you, they make you vain, they speak a vision of their own heart and not out of the mouth of the word of God. I have not sent these prophets, yet they run; I have not spoken to them, yet they prophesied.

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O ye indolent husbandmen! O ye idle shepherds! ye HIRELING ministers of the church of antichrist, who have not entered into the work of the ministry by the door, under the influence and inspiration of the spirit of wisdom, light and love; ye are the robbers that have been taking upon you the government of the flock and family of God, who is rising in his holy habitation; all flesh shall be silent before him.

I am this day sent as a LITTLE messenger to proclaim the mighty day of the Lord is at hand; in the language of the prophet—all my bones shake, I am like a drunken man, whom wine hath overcome because of the Lord, and because of the words of his holiness, for the land is full of adulterers, for because of swearing the land mourneth and the pleasant places of the wilderness are dried up, and their course is evil, and their doings are not right, for both prophets and priests are profane; yea in my house I have found their wickedness, saith the Lord. Wickedness hath taken deep root; the flood gates of hell are set open; the waters of iniquity run down our street as a mighty stream; horrible devils in human form walk to and fro in the earth, belching forth oaths and blaspheming the tremendous name of the Lord God of hosts.

Hear, O ye teachers, the word of the Lord; but if ye had stood in my counsel and had
caused

caused my people to hear my words, then they should have turned them from the evil of their ways, and from the evil of their doings. JEREMIAH, C. 23, V. 22.

O ye ministers! ye blind guides! how long will ye deceive the people? and how long will the people be deceived by you? until they turn their eyes unto heaven and receive spiritual light and understanding. In this day the people will buy of your wares no more, as they apply unto him who is the good physician, who will heal their maladies, as they are restored to soundness of mind and their eyes opened to behold the secret workings of the mystery of iniquity in all deceiveableness of unrighteousness in them that perish. Mind the cause, because they receive not the truth in the love thereof, whereby they might be saved. For this cause, God gives them up to strong delusions, that they should believe a lie. The ground of delusion lies in man, in rejecting the counsel of the Lord, and walking in their own paths which are evil, and chusing their own ways, and walking after the lusts of their own corrupt unmortified wills, and in exalting themselves in the pride of their hearts as Gods. Let me appeal unto you that call yourselves members of the church of Rome, and of the church of England, the separate congregations of Presbyterians, Independents, and Baptists; I doubt not but there are men that fear the Lord, men of integrity amongst you; but it appears clear to me your

ministry is upon one and the same foundation, in the will and wisdom, and in the light of your own spirits, and not in the will and wisdom and in the light of the spirit of God, whom ye have rejected from your assemblies.

Although you differ a little in appearance in the branch, ye grow from the same root, and bring forth the same fruit. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; that which is born of the spirit is spirit; those children which are born of the spirit of God, that thirst after the milk of the word, that they may grow thereby, and these thirst no longer after the doctrines, after the waters that flow from the polluted spirit of man; ye are of the world, and worldly minded hear you; ye go forth in your own name, power, and spirit, the true ministers go forth in the name and under the influence of the power and spirit of God. Come and drink of the streams of this pure river, which flows freely, and it shall run through the middle of the city, making glad the whole heritage of God. These have fountains, a spring of living waters, springing up in their spirits unto eternal life.

The command of the Lord is, keep thy heart with all diligence, for out of it issues the life and death, good and evil, light and darkness; if thy eye be single unto the Lord, thy whole body shall be full of light; if thy eye be evil, thy body shall be full of darkness.

I travail

I travail in birth for mankind, that they might receive the knowledge of the truth, and be saved, and that the knowledge and glory of God might cover the earth as the waters cover the sea. This great work is upon the wheel; God will create a new heaven and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

I propose to examine the ground, to find out and to declare the cause of this great change, and of this great and glorious work which the Most High will accomplish, consistent with his holy will and wisdom, who touches the mountains and they smoke at his presence, and the hills and they become as dust. Let therefore the fear and dread of him, who is the fear and dread of nations, lay hold of your spirits, ye inhabitants of the old heavens and of the old earth; fear ye not me, saith the Lord, will ye not tremble at my presence, which have placed the land for bound of the sea, by a perpetual decree that it cannot pass it, and though the waves thereof toss themselves yet can they not prevail, though they run yet can they not pass over; but this people hath a revolting and a rebellious heart, they are revolted and gone.

Is here not the same ground of complaint as against Israel? They are waxen fat, they shine, yea they overpass the deeds of the wicked, they judge not the cause of the fatherless, and the right of the needy do they not judge. Shall not I visit for these things? saith the Lord; shall not

not I be avenged on such a nation as this. A wonderful and honorable thing is committed in the land ; the prophets prophesied falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means, and my people love to have it so.

Read in the fourth chapter of Jeremiah, and behold as in a glass the general state of the teachers of the various congregations. My soul mourneth under a sense of the great evils the people have brought upon themselves by setting under a corrupt ministry, seeing the abominations, hearing the blasphemies, beholding the wickedness of mankind ; I will publish in my Lord and master's name, the leaders of my people have caused them to err, from the least of them even unto the greatest of them ; every man is given to covetousness, and from the priest even unto the prophet : every one, saith he, is a minister, and an ambassador sent of God, from whom he hath received no commission. These are deceivers Christ declared should come in his name ; and as that which is earthly corresponds to that which is heavenly, let me appeal to men of understanding ; Judge ye, I pray you in this matter, what sentence should ye pass, what punishment would ye inflict upon those, who falsely declare themselves to be the ministers and ambassadors of an earthly Prince, from whom they have received no commission, no authority, unto whom they are entire strangers ; what judgment would ye pass upon those impostors ?

O ye

O ye kings of the earth, who are jealous of your honor; would ye not say take these men and cast them into utter darkness, feed them with wormwood and with gall? how much greater punishment is your portion, who presumptuously take upon you to personate, to represent yourselves as ministers and ambassadors of the King of kings and Lord of lords, unto whom ye are strangers; who run and he hath not sent; who prophesy and he hath not spoken unto you.

O that I had in my hand the TRUMPET of the Lord, to sound an alarm upon his holy mountain, that the graves might be opened, that the dead might hear the voice of the spirit of God and live, that they might be quickened and illuminated, and their eyes opened to behold the secret workings of the mystery of iniquity, that they might see the subtilty of the serpent, the twistings and the twinings, and the transformations of satan (the spirit of man) into the appearance of angels of light.

Let me appeal again to ye men of understanding, have not the ministers of the church of Rome, of the church of England, and of the Dissenters, under the name of Presbyterians, Independents and Baptists, all conspired together not to suffer the Lord to appear amongst them! have they not closed their ears and their eyes, that they might not hear his heavenly voice, and that they might prevent the light of his glory from shining upon their spirits, whom amongst the
leaders

leaders the teachers will permit any servant of the Lord to exercise their gift, to speak in their assemblies; is this a light matter? has not the Lord given power to man to chuse his own servants, and will any dare to attempt to debar the Most High God from this privilege? to chuse, call, and qualify for the work and service of the ministry.

I lament under a living sense of the cause of the spiritual death, which prevails, reigns and spreads as a thick cloud of darkness over the assembly of the people. The apostles declare, the world by wisdom knows not God; how long will ye be deceived in imagining men by human learning can search out the mysteries of the kingdom of life and salvation. Again, the natural man knows not the things of God; they are spiritually discerned, & I testify, humility is the ground of illumination, without illumination no man can know the Lord. The way to attain divine understanding, let the eye of thy mind be turned inwards, for what is to be known of God is manifested in man, and whatever maketh manifest is light.

Obey the divine command, be still and know that I am God, Let all flesh be silent before me, faith the Lord, and wait to feel the arising of the power of my spirit into dominion in your spirit, over all the powers of darkness, death, hell, and the grave; stand still and see my salvation; my power, faith the Lord, is above, and shall break through every other power, and reign over all in the solemn assemblies of my people,

people, whom I will form to the praise of my great and everlasting name.

This is the element, the habitation of the children of light; the power of God is and will be the crown and diadem, the canopy of the assemblies of his people in ages past, present and to come; the hour cometh, and now is, that those which worship the father must worship him in spirit and in truth; these worshippers can truly pray, not my will, but thine be done, O Lord, on earth, as it is done in heaven; the Lord is to this church an everlasting light, and thou also shalt be a crown of glory in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of thy God. Violence shall no more be heard in thy land, wasting nor destruction within thy borders, but thou shalt call thy walls salvation, and thy gates praise; as for me this is my covenant with thou saith the Lord; my spirit which is upon thee, and my words which I have put in thy mouth shall not depart out of thy mouth, nor out of the mouth of thy seed, nor out of the mouth of thy seed's seed, saith the Lord, from henceforth and for ever.

By the light of these truths, I behold the beauty, the excellence and the glory of the church; when the Lord of host shall reign in Sion and influence your hearts, and you shall cry gloriously, O Lord, thou art my God, I will exalt thee, I will praise thy name, for thou hast done wonderful

derful things; thy counsels of old are faithfulness and truth.

And the seventh angel sounded his trumpet, and there was a great voice in heaven, saying, the kingdoms of this world are become the kingdoms of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign for ever and ever; righteousness and peace is the foundation, light and glory, is the canopy of this glorious kingdom; and there shall be no more curse, but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and his servants shall serve him, and they shall see his face; and his name shall be in their foreheads, and there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun, for the Lord God giveth them light, and they shall reign for ever and ever. And he said unto me, these sayings are faithful and true; and the Lord God of the holy prophets sent his angels to shew unto his servants the things which must shortly be done. Behold, (saith the Lord) I come quickly; blessed is he that receiveth and keepeth these sayings of the prophesy of this book.

Read the 22d chapter of Revelations, and receive light; hear the word of the Lord, O ye nations, and declare it in the isles afar off, and say he that scattered Israel will keep him as a shepherd doth his flock; therefore shall they come and sing in the heights of Sion, and shall flow together to the goodness of the Lord, for wheat, and for wine, and for oil, and for the young

young of the flock, and of the herd, and their soul shall be as a watered garden, and they shall not sorrow any more at all. The Lord will satisfy the soul of the priest with fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my goodness, saith the Lord; the kingdom of heaven is come; come ye children of the morning light and enter into the mansions prepared for you; come ye newborn babes and suck at the breast of consolation; come ye young men who are strong and who have overcome the wicked one; him which overcometh shall eat of the precious fruit of the tree of life which stands in the midst of the garden of God.

By the light which flows from the foregoing passages of holy writ, I behold the excellency of the constitution and the inexpressible blessings upon the heads of the faithful followers of the Lamb, the meek spirit of God, the spirit of truth which leads into all truth; by this eternal principle the partition wall of separation is breaking down, and the spirit of mankind reconciled unto God. Those which are born of this spirit, they become the children of God; they see his face, they love and rejoice in his appearance under every dispensation; they experience in his presence there is life, and at his right hand fulness of joy.

Blessed and holy is he that hath a part in the first resurrection. I am, saith the Lord, spirit of light and love, the resurrection and the life; he

that liveth and believeth in me, altho' he were dead, yet shall he live. This shall be the language of the inhabitants of the new heavens and the new earth: O come, let us sing unto the Lord, let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation, let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, and make a joyful noise unto him with psalms; for the Lord is a great God and a great King above all gods. O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our maker, for he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hands. Give unto the Lord the glory due to his name; bring an offering and come into his courts; O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; fear before him all the earth. Read the 95th, 96th, and 97th psalms. This is the great work of the power of the mighty spirit of God, to reduce, to subdue, and submit the will of the *creature* to the holy will of the CREATOR, whose will is our sanctification. The prophet declares there shall in no wise enter into the temple (the church) of God any thing that defileth, neither whosoever worketh abomination, or maketh a lie, but they which are written in the Lamb's book of life. Blessed are they which do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. In that day shall this song be sung in the land of Judah: We have a strong city, salvation will God appoint for walls and bulwarks;—open ye
the

the gates, that the righteous nation which keepeth truth may enter.

Behold the harmony, the language of the spirit of the Lord, in every age and dispensation; behold the blessed state of those spirits which live under his government; thou wilt keep him, keep him in perfect peace whose mind is staid on thee, (MIND THE CAUSE) because he trusteth in thee. Trust ye in the Lord for ever, for in the Lord Jehovah is everlasting strength; receive the set passages of holy record for the encouragement of the inhabitants of the celestial region, whom the Lord will translate out of darkness into his marvellous light.

Many deep trials will fall to your portion, in your passage through the wilderness; lean upon the breast of thy beloved, let thy eye be unto him, look not at the mighty host of the armies of evil spirits and angels which will encompass the camp of the Lamb; their power is limited, they cannot touch a hair of your heads without divine permission.

I am dipt again into deep sympathy with the precious suffering seed; the Lord, the mighty God will bring Israel his people, his church, as a vine out of Egypt; thou hast cast out the heathen and planted it; thou didst cause it to take deep root, and it filled the land, the hills were covered with the shadow of it, and the boughs thereof were like the goodly cedars; the
sent

sent out her boughs unto the river; under this similitude I beheld the flourishing state of the true church, the spiritual Israel, in these last ages of the world.

Return, we beseech thee, God of hosts, look down from heaven, and behold and visit this vine and the vineyard which thy right hand hath planted, and the branch that thou madest strong for thyself; he took also of the seed of the land, and planted it by great waters, and set it as a willow tree, and it grew and became a spreading vine of low stature, whose branches turned towards him, and the roots thereof were under him, so it became a vine and brought forth branches, and shot forth sprigs, it was planted in a good soil by great waters, that it might bring forth branches, and that it might bear fruit, that it might be a godly vine. The light of the kingdom of heaven, in and under various similitudes and representations, doth manifest the *super excellency* of divine wisdom, and the super abounding goodness of the most high God to his church in every age under the figure of a vine; in it we may behold the three-fold unity, the world which is as a fire, which word is God, the father, and the vine is the son who is the light, and the branches are as the beams

As I before observed, the fire, light and flame, is the Lord God Almighty, and the Lamb are the temple, the wisdom, light, and glory of the new heavens and of the new earth; and the kings of
the

earth do bring their glory and honour unto it; the wisdom of the Father, the light of the Son, and the glory of the Holy Ghost shall shine in the tabernacle, in the church of God over all the wisdom, light and glory of man; for I, saith the Lord, will be unto her a wall of fire, round about, and the glory in the midst of her.

Sing and rejoice, O! daughter of Zion, for lo, I come, and will dwell in the midst of thee, saith the Lord, and many nations shall be joined to the Lord in that day, and thou shalt be my people and I will dwell in the midst of thee, and thou shalt know the Lord of hosts hath sent me unto thee, and the Lord shall inherit Judah, his portion in the holy land, and shall chuse Jerusalem again. Be silent, all flesh before the Lord, for he is raised up out of his holy salvation. JEREM. c. 2. v. 10, 11, 12, 13.

Read also the third chapter, and behold the blessed state of the inhabitants of Mount Zion; whom the Lord will purify by the spirit of judgment, he will take away their filthy garments, and clothe them with the hange of raiment, and set a fine mitre upon his head, and clothe with garments (of light and immortality); and the angel of the Lord prophesied unto Joshua; thus saith the Lord of hosts if thou wilt walk in my ways, if thou wilt keep my charge, then thou shalt also judge my house; and shalt also keep my courts; and I will give thee palaces to walk in, among those that stand by

Hear

Hear now, O Joshua, the high priest, thou and thy fellows that set before thee, for they are men wondered at, for behold I will bring forth my servant the branch, for behold the stone that I have laid before Joshua; upon one stone shall be seven eyes, upon every member of the church, upon every precious stone shall be perfection of heavenly light and wisdom. Behold I will engrave the graving thereof saith the Lord of hosts, and I will remove the iniquity of that land in one day. In that day saith the Lord of hosts shall ye call every man his neighbour, under the vine and under the fig tree; I am as one astonished in the abundant light flowing from the beams of the sun, I mean the holy scriptures which are as a light to give light to those which set in darkness, as a river flowing from the inexhaustible fountain. Walk in the light and drink in the streams of this river. And the angels which talked with me came again and awakened me as a man that is awakened out of his sleep, and said unto me, what seest thou, and I said, I have looked, and behold a candlestick all of gold, with a bowl upon the top of it, and seven lamps thereon, and seven pipes to the seven lamps, which were upon the top thereof.

By the light of these candles, by the light of these stones, standing in the firmament of the heavens, I behold not only the light but also the abundant supplies of heavenly riches,
the

the heavenly doctrines, flowing into and through the spirits of the ambassadors sent of God, who are moving under the influence, instruction, and inspiration of his holy spirit; for thus saith the Lord, not by might nor by power (of men) but by my spirit, saith the Lord of hosts I will begin, carry on and complete the work of *reformation, restoration, peace and salvation*.

Who art thou, O great mountain before Zerubabel, thou (anti-Christ church) shall become a plain, and he shall bring forth the head stone thereof, with shouting, crying grave! grave! unto it the spirit of grace and of truth, of light and of love, shall rest upon the spirits of the rising generation; thus saith the Lord, I am returned unto Zion, and will dwell in the midst of Jerusalem, and Jerusalem shall be called a city of truth, and the mountain of the Lord of hosts, the holy mountain; read the 8th Zachariah, and behold the great work upon the wheel, and there is great encouragement for the faithful servants of God.

Thus saith the Lord of hosts, let your hands be strong, ye that hear in these days, these words by the mouth of the prophets, which were in the day that the foundation of the house of the Lord of hosts was laid, that the temple might be built.

Hear ye inhabitants of the new heavens and new earth, thus speaketh the Lord of hosts,
 O saying,

saying, execute true judgment, and shew mercy and compassion every man to his brother, and oppress not the widow, nor the fatherless, the stranger nor the poor; these are things that ye shall do; speak ye every man the truth to his neighbour; execute the judgment of truth and peace in your gates. The Lord thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love; he will joy over thee with singing.

*The Religion and form of Government of the
Inhabitants of the New Heavens and
of the New Earth.*

The foundation of this glorious kingdom is righteousness, and grace, and truth, mercy and compassion, light and love; love is the principal, the chief corner stone; the Lord hath laid the foundation of Zion; for thus saith the Lord, that created the heavens, God himself that formed the earth, and made it; he hath established it; he created not in vain; he formed it to be inhabited.

I am the Lord, look unto me and be ye saved all the ends of the earth, for I am God, and there is none else. In the Lord shall all the seed of Israel be justified, and shall glory; I bring near my righteousness, it shall not be afar off, and my salvation shall not tarry, and I will place salvation in Zion, for Israel my glory;
and

and they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places; thou shalt raise up the foundation of many generations, and thou shalt be called the repairer of the BREACH, the restorer of paths to dwell in.

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord; my soul shall be joyful in my God, for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation; he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride with her jewels; for as the earth bringeth forth her fruits, and as the garden causeth the things that are sown in it to spring forth, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and peace to spring forth before all the nations.

Read the 61st and 62d of Isaiah, behold the Lord hath proclaimed unto the end of the world, say ye to the daughter of Zion, behold thy salvation cometh; behold his reward is with him, and his work is before him; and they shall call them the holy people, the redeemed of the Lord; and thou shalt be called sought out a city not forsaken. The Lord will clothe his prophets with salvation, and the spirit of true judgment shall rest upon and clothe the spirits of the rulers, and of the judges. These shall be able men, such as fear God; men of truth, hating covetousness. It is not for Kings to drink wine, nor for princes strong drink,

lest they drink and forget the law, and pervert the judgement of any of the afflicted.

Blessed art thou, O land, when thy King is the son of nobles, and thy princes eat in due season for strength and not for drunkenness. This is the first lesson the ministers, rulers, and governors in the new heavens, and in the new earth, (in church and state.) Learn if any man faith the prince of peace, would be my disciple; let him first deny himself, and take up his daily cross and follow me; and I charge you, whom my great Lord and Master shall chuse as standard bearers, I charge you numerous armies whom the King of kings shall raise up, and clothe with the whole armour of light, eat no meat, drink no wine, nor strong drink, least ye die; nor defile your bodies with the stinking poisonous fumes of tobacco; remember your bodies are the temples of the Holy Ghost, and if any man defile this temple, him will God destroy. Let this be your language you children of the morning light; we will not follow the voice of the multitude, nor walk in the paths, nor follow the vain customs of this world, which lies in wickedness; we will obey the voice of the Lord our God, and come out from amongst them, and be separated, and touch no unclean thing; we will walk in the paths of wisdom to hear her voice, and follow her counsels; we know her ways are pleasantness, and all her paths peace.

Love

Love is the foundation of our religion, under the cementing influence of this divine principle, we will love the Lord our God, and serve him with a perfect heart, and we will love our neighbours as ourselves, as children of one father; we will not take the name of the Lord our God in vain, but in humility and filial fear we will approach his holy presence in adoration and admiration of his goodness and of his gracious dealings with the workmanship of his holy hands; we will walk in humble prostration before him in our solemn gathering appointed for divine worship; and we will enquire of the divine oracle wherewithal shall we come before the Lord, and bow ourselves before the Most High God; how shall we worship thee in the beauty of holiness, that we may see thy face and approach thy presence, and touch the sceptre of thy love, that our spirits may draw nigh to the throne of grace.

The revelation of the will of the Most High God, was the foundation both of the government of the church and common-wealth of Israel; and this is the foundation of the government of our church and state; our magistrates and ministers wait at the posts of wisdom in Jerusalem until they are endued with power from on high; they wait in solemn silence, in humble prostration before the throne of the mighty King of kings, to know his holy will, to hear his
gracious

gracious voice from between the cherubims, above the mercy seat. It is in and under the shadow of the wings of his glory, light and love, he meets and communes with the spirits of his chosen appointed and anointed ministers and ambassadors, and give them in commission what they shall say to his church and people; and it is under the influence and inspiration of the same living eternal principle of light and of glory, that his ministers and ambassadors meet and commune with and communicate the divine will to the spirits of the flock and family of God, at that (THIS) time they shall call (the new) Jerusalem, the throne of the Lord, and all nations shall be gathered unto it, to the name (spirit and power) of the Lord to Jerusalem (the holy city); neither shall they walk any more after the imagination of their evil hearts. A glorious high throne from the beginning is the place of our sanctuary. Thus saith the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, as yet they shall use this speech in the land of Judea, and in the cities thereof, when I shall bring again their captivity. Bless the Lord, O habitation of justice, and mountains of holiness.

Give ear, O ye inhabitants of the (NEW) heavens, and I will speak, and hear, O earth, the words of my mouth. My doctrine (saith the living ministers) shall drop as the rain; my speech shall distil as the dew, as the small rain upon

upon the tender herb, and as (heavenly) showers upon the grass.

I am, saith the spirit of wisdom, come out as a brook from a river, flowing from the inexhaustible fountain of grace, and as a *conductor* into a garden. I said, I will water my best garden, and I will water abundantly with celestial showers of heavenly (doctrines) rains, and lo, my brook shall become a mighty river, and my river become a sea, a boundless ocean of love, whose waters are clear as crystal. He that is athirst, let him come; he that will, may come and drink of the waters of life freely.

Come with me, and in humble adoration sing a song of praise, saying, Great and marvellous are all thy works, Lord God Almighty; just and true are all thy ways thou King of saints. O thou adorable goodness, hear from heaven thy holy habitation the prayer of thy poor servant, & let thy blessing attend this labour of love, & make it serviceable in thy hand to open the eyes of the blind, command the rays of heavenly light to shine upon and enlighten this world which lies in darkness, and fulfill in this our age thy gracious promise, & pour forth of thy spirit upon sons and daughters; raise up a free living ministry, and send them forth to preach again the everlasting gospel in its morning purity and simplicity, that the inhabitants of the earth may be converted unto thee. O thou, with whom is all power, command universal charity,

to

prevail and reign in and over all, that the voice of war, of oppression and poverty, may no more be heard in our land. Restore, regenerate, and purify the spirits of the children of men, and cause the light of thy glory to cover the earth as the waters cover the sea; that with songs of praise we may approach thy presence, saying, glory unto thee O God in the highest, and peace and good will to all men. Pour forth the spirit of grace upon our spirits, that as with the voice of one man in the depth of humility, we may ascribe unto thee all power, dominion, majesty and glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE VISION

OF

THOMAS STORY,

In 1689.

Taken from his JOURNAL, page 21, 22.

ONE night, being in bed, and all sleep and slumber involuntarily suspended, and my mind quiet and easy, and directed towards the north, about the second hour in the morning, after a short space I beheld a storm to arise in the northern ocean, towards the north pole; and looking steadfastly upon it, and the height and fury of the mighty waves, I saw an army innumerable walking thereon, towards the south, and when they came ashore they covered the whole breadth of the island of Britain and all the northern lands; and the rear I could not see, on where they issued; they were strangers in the earth, such as have not been known; their apparel plain, appearing as if they came from far, and travelled long, as I saw no provision, baggage, sword, spear, or weapon of war, but only staves in their hands, suiting their journey, their

P

countenances

countenances were grave, solemn and calm, importing wisdom and peace; and they offered no violence or hurt unto any; and yet all nations being surprized and amazed with great and sudden pain fled before them, and they did not pursue, otherwise than by walking forward in the same steady pace and order as upon the stormy seas, which had not obstructed their march. The inhabitants of Britain, and of other lands, of all stations, ages, sexes, sects and ranks, as distracted and confounded with fears, and flying as for their lives when none pursued, fell many of them by the way; and lest they should, when no man gave them chase, they cried aloud with confused shrieks and noises, raising their trembling hands and intermitting voices towards heaven, which they had deeply offended, and neglected before to implore deliverance from the dreadful army which offered them no harm; and when Britain's children arrived at her southermost bounds, she joined herself to the land of the ancient Gauls; and all nations thus flowing together as the concourse of the waters into one sea, they vanished together and I saw them no more.

This remarkable vision appears to respect a mighty army, raised up in a miraculous manner, by the operation of the invisible power of the Most High God; the arising of the storm, and their walking upon the waves, points forth the day

day of deep tribulation, those noble valiants shall endure for the cause of truth; the plainness of their apparel denotes their self-denial, and without provision; bearing neither sword nor spear nor weapon of war, but only staves in their hands, suiting their journey; manifest their reliance and dependance upon the hand of the Almighty; their grave, sober, and calm countenances, importing wisdom and peace, clearly discovers them to be the inhabitants of the new heavens and of the new earth, and walking under the influence and inspiration of that wisdom which comes from above, which is peaceable, gentle, easy to be intreated, full of love, and of light.

I rejoice in a view of the near approaching day of deliverance of the oppressed suffering seed of God, who will by a mighty hand bring his chosen people out of spiritual Egypt; the Lord his God is with him, and the spirit of a king is amongst them. How goodly are thy seats, O Jacob, and thy tabernacles, O Israel. As the valleys spread forth as gardens by the river side, as trees which the Lord hath planted, as cedars beside the waters, he shall pour the water out of his buckets, and his seed shall be in many waters.

Under a sense of the near approaching dispensation of universal peace and salvation, wherein the morning stars shall sing together, and the sons of

God

God shall shout aloud for joy, I salute you, *heaven-born babes*, in the love of my heavenly Father, and in *child-like* simplicity, bid you *farewell*.

A Traveller for the Prosperity of Sion,

JOHN BOUSELL,

FINIS,

18 AP 68

ERRATA.

Page. line.

- 70, 11, for *sketch*, read *search*.
77, 3, after *sun*, read *the light of truth*.
83, 26, for *members*, read *ministers*.
86, 2, for *honorable*, read *horrible*.
92, 19, for *submit*, read *subject*.
93, 10, for *receive the set passages*, read *I revive these passages*.
94, 24, for *world*, read *word*.
95, 19, for *salvation*, read *habitation*.
97, 15, for *grave, grave*, read *grace, grace*.
101, 11, for *walk*, read *wait*.
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